MARVEL

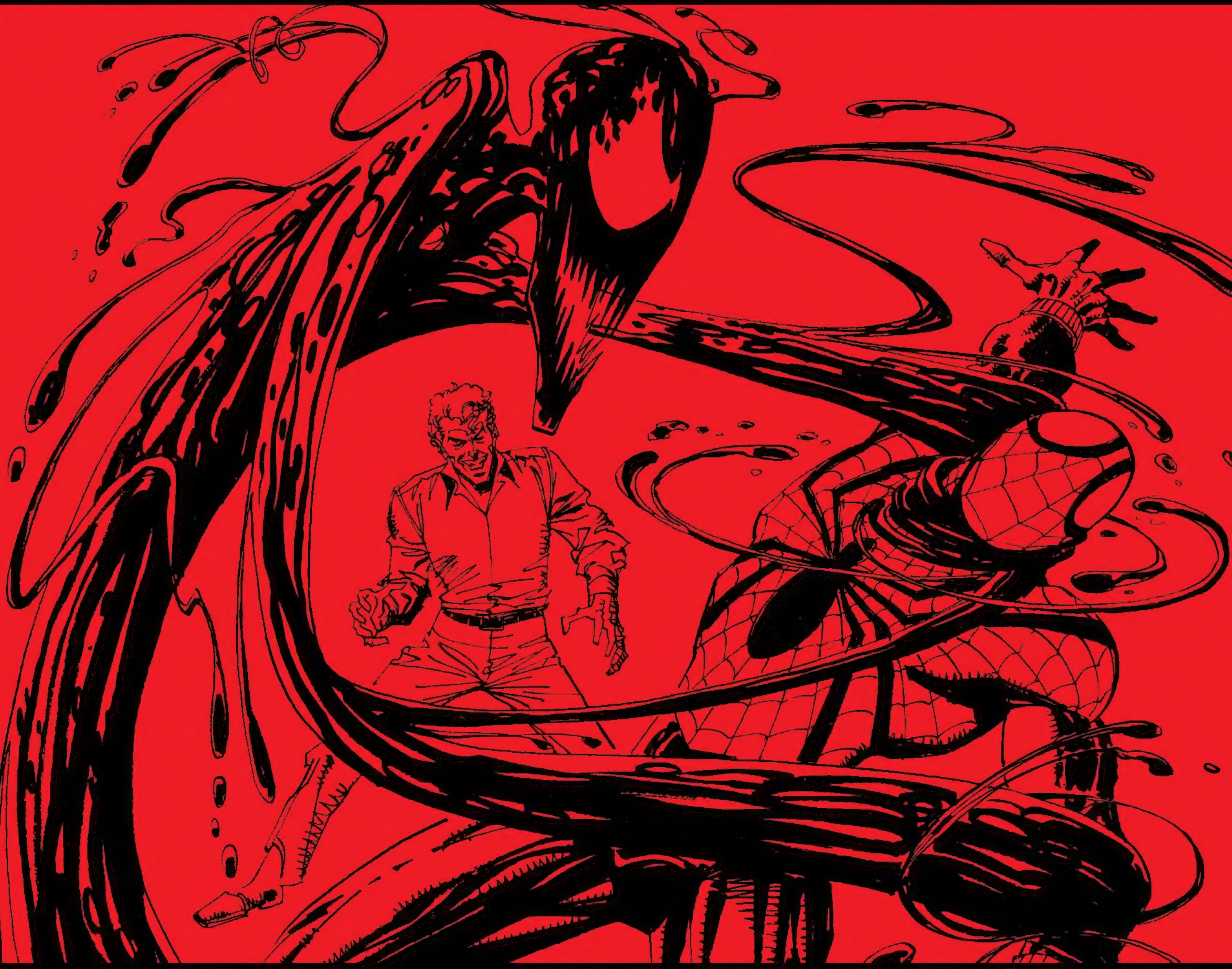
EPIC COLLECTION

CARNAGE

WEB OF CARNAGE

HAMA • MICHELINIE • BAGLEY • WILDMAN • HOTZ • HOOD

EPIC COLLECTION



CARNAGE

WEB OF CARNAGE

VOLUME 2

1994-1997

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #403 & #410, VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED #1-4,
CARNAGE: MIND BOMB, SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #3, SPIDER-MAN #67,
SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #233, CARNAGE: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE,
VENOM: ON TRIAL #2-3 AND MATERIAL FROM *AMAZING SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL,*
SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL, VENOM SUPER SPECIAL, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN
SUPER SPECIAL AND *WEB OF SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL*

CARNAGE

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EXCERPTS FROM *WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #117, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #394* AND *SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #217 & #223,* OCTOBER 1994-APRIL 1995

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #403, JULY 1995
"THE TRIAL OF PETER PARKER, PART TWO: JUDGEMENT AT BEDLAM"

VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED #1, APRIL 1995
"THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OUT OF HERE..."

VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED #2, MAY 1995
"SAID THE JOKER TO THE THIEF"

VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED #3, JUNE 1995
"THERE'S TOO MUCH CONFUSION!"

VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED #4, JULY 1995
"CAN'T GET NO RELIEF!!"

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL, 1995
"PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES, CHAPTER ONE: THE FAR CRY!"

SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL, JULY 1995
"PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES, CHAPTER TWO: LURKERS!"

VENOM SUPER SPECIAL, AUGUST 1995
"PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES, CHAPTER 3: MONSTERWORLD!"

SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL, SEPTEMBER 1995
"PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES, CHAPTER 4: INVASION!"

WEB OF SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL, 1995
"PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES, CONCLUSION: MORTAL VICTORY"

CARNAGE: MIND BOMB, FEBRUARY 1996

SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #3, APRIL 1996
"WEB OF CARNAGE, PART 1 OF 4: HEADLINES"

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #410, APRIL 1996
"WEB OF CARNAGE, PART 2 OF 4: AND NOW — SPIDER-CARNAGE"

SPIDER-MAN #67, APRIL 1996
"WEB OF CARNAGE, PART 3: WHO AM I?"

SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #233, APRIL 1996
"WEB OF CARNAGE, PART 4: INNER DEMONS"

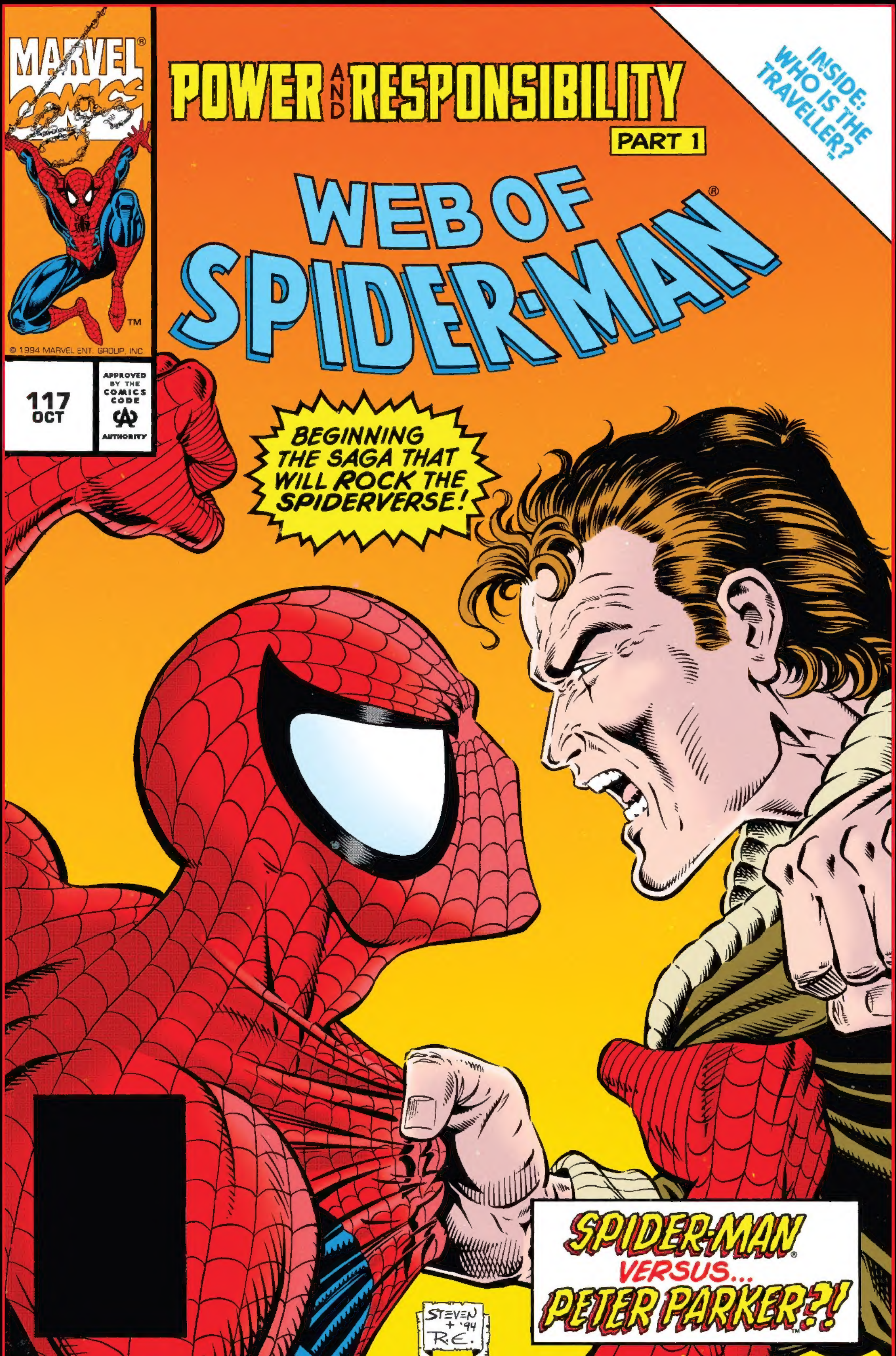
CARNAGE: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE, OCTOBER 1996

VENOM: ON TRIAL #2, APRIL 1997
"DISORDER IN THE COURT!"

VENOM: ON TRIAL #3, MAY 1997
"TRIAL AND ERROR!"

IN LATE 1994, SPIDER-MAN'S LONG-THOUGHT-DEAD CLONE BEN REILLY RESURFACED — AND THE CLONE SAGA BEGAN! PETER AND BEN EACH STRUGGLED TO ACCEPT THE OTHER, UNAWARE THAT THEY WERE BEING MANIPULATED BY THE JACKAL AND SEVERAL OTHER PARTIES. BUT BOTH WERE CALLED INTO ACTION WHEN THE MYSTERIOUS JUDAS TRAVELLER AND HIS STUDENTS TOOK OVER THE RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE, WHICH HOUSED DOZENS OF CRIMINALLY INSANE SUPER VILLAINS...INCLUDING CARNAGE!

CLETUS KASADY'S PART IN TRAVELLER'S COMPLEX PLOT IS HIGHLIGHTED IN THESE EXCERPTS FROM "POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY," THE CLONE SAGA'S INAUGURAL STORYLINE.


MARVEL COMICS
POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY
PART 1
INSIDE: WHO IS THE TRAVELLER?
WEB OF SPIDER-MAN
© 1994 MARVEL ENT. GROUP, INC.
117 OCT
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
BEGINNING THE SAGA THAT WILL ROCK THE SPIDERVERSE!
SPIDER-MAN VERSUS... PETER PARKER?!
STEVEN + '94 R.E.

EXCERPT FROM *WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #117*

WRITER: TERRY KAVANAGH • PENCILER: STEVEN BUTLER • INKER: RANDY EMBERLIN • COLORIST: KEVIN TINSLEY
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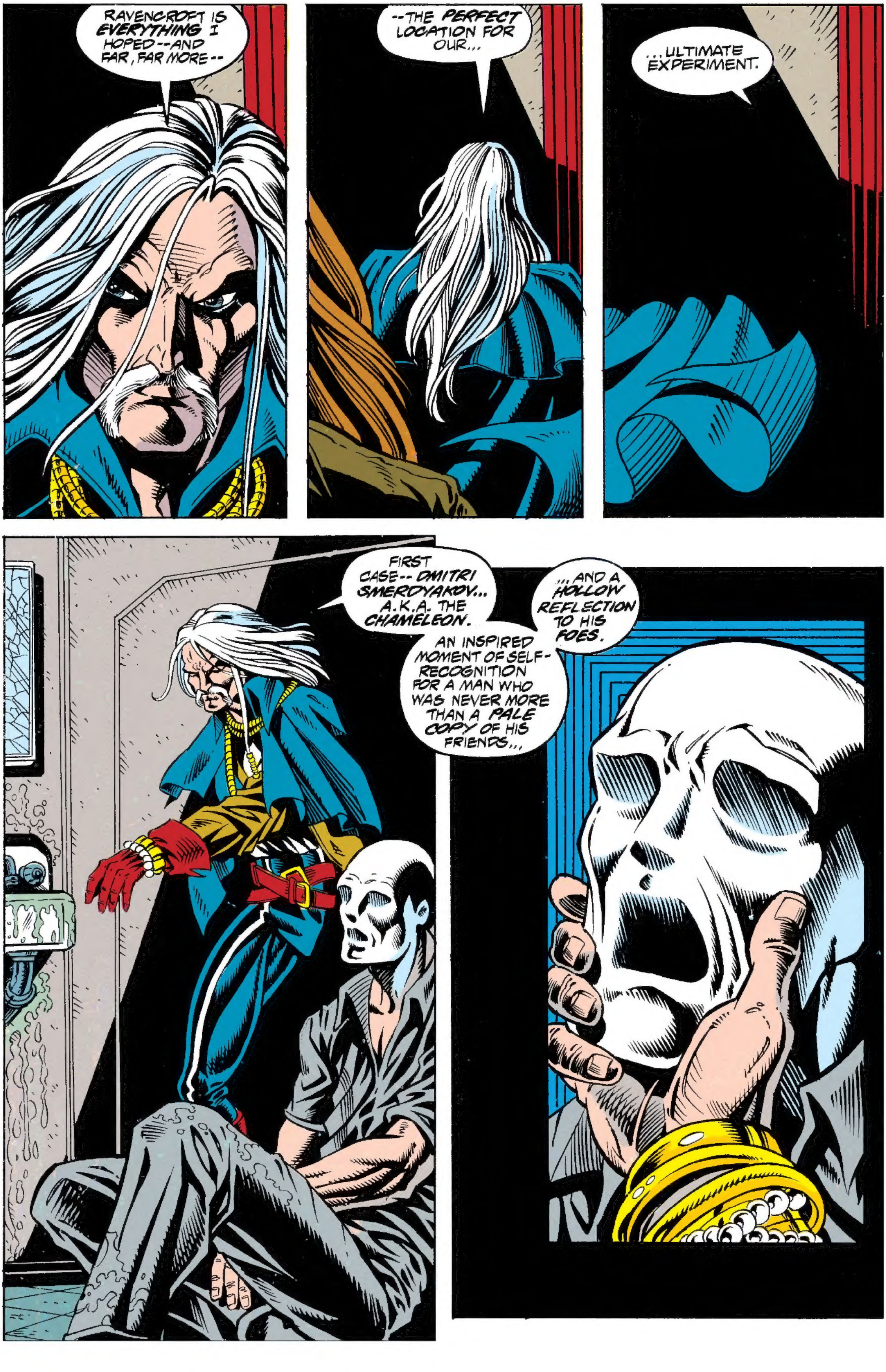
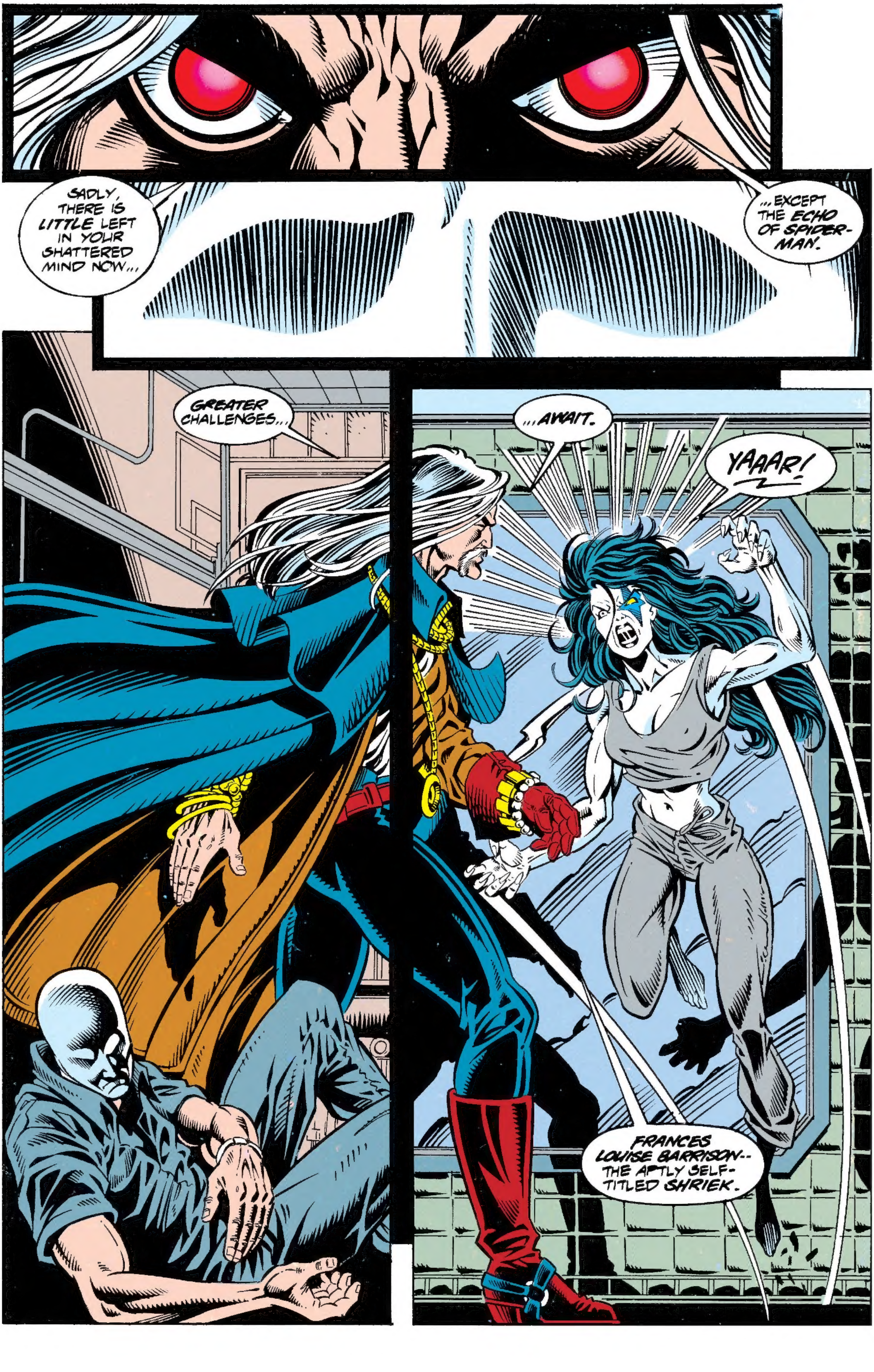
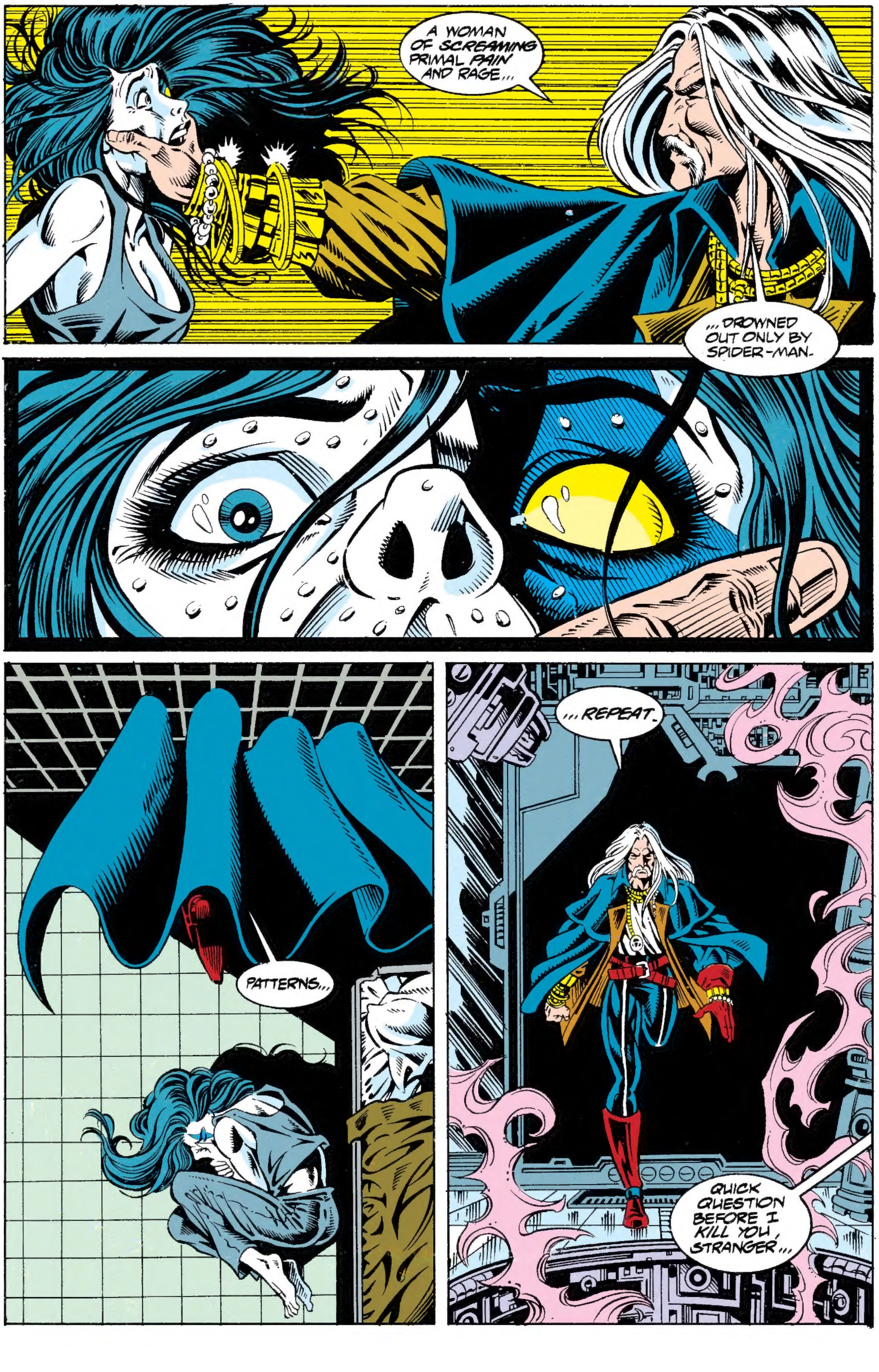
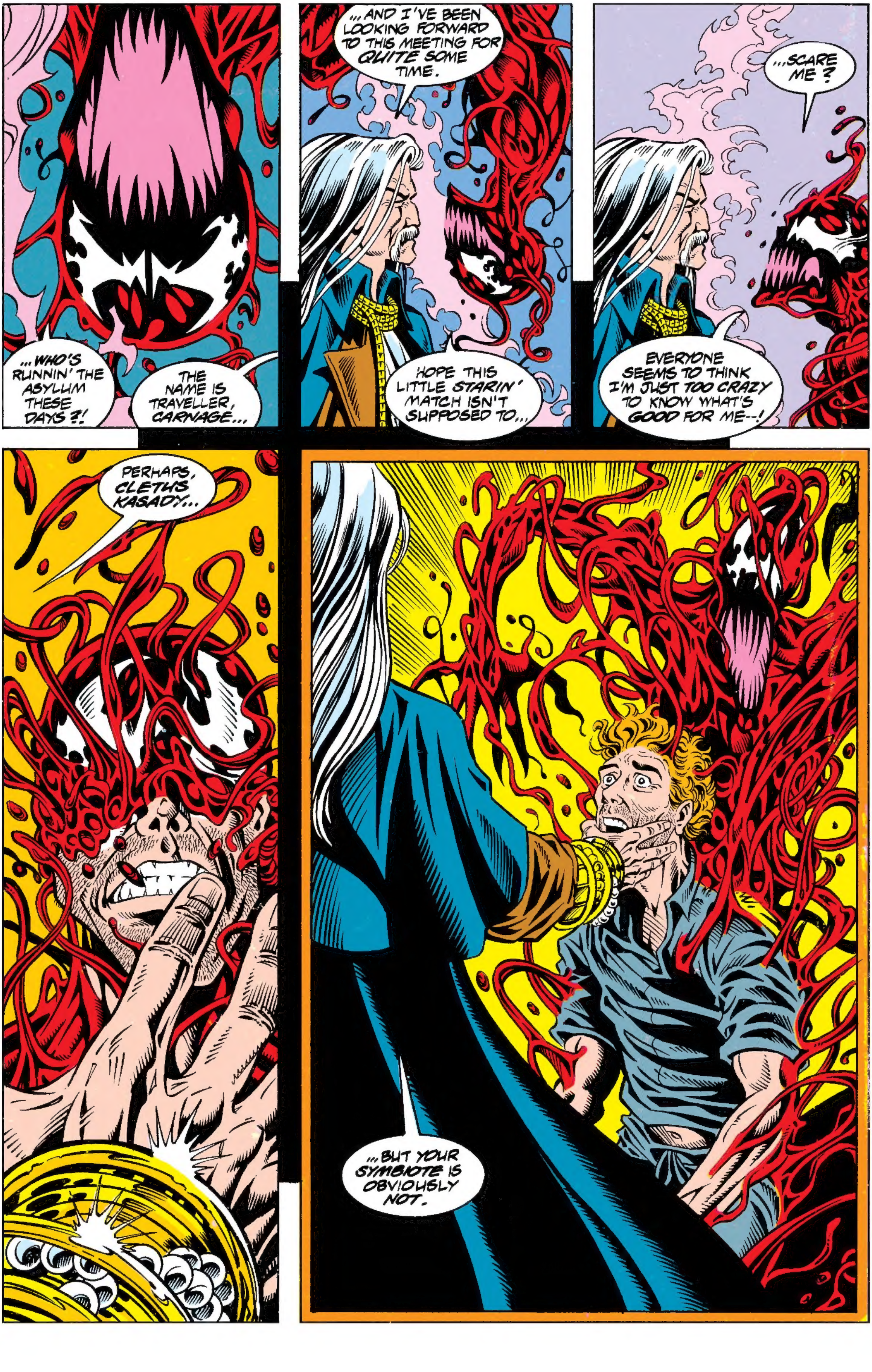
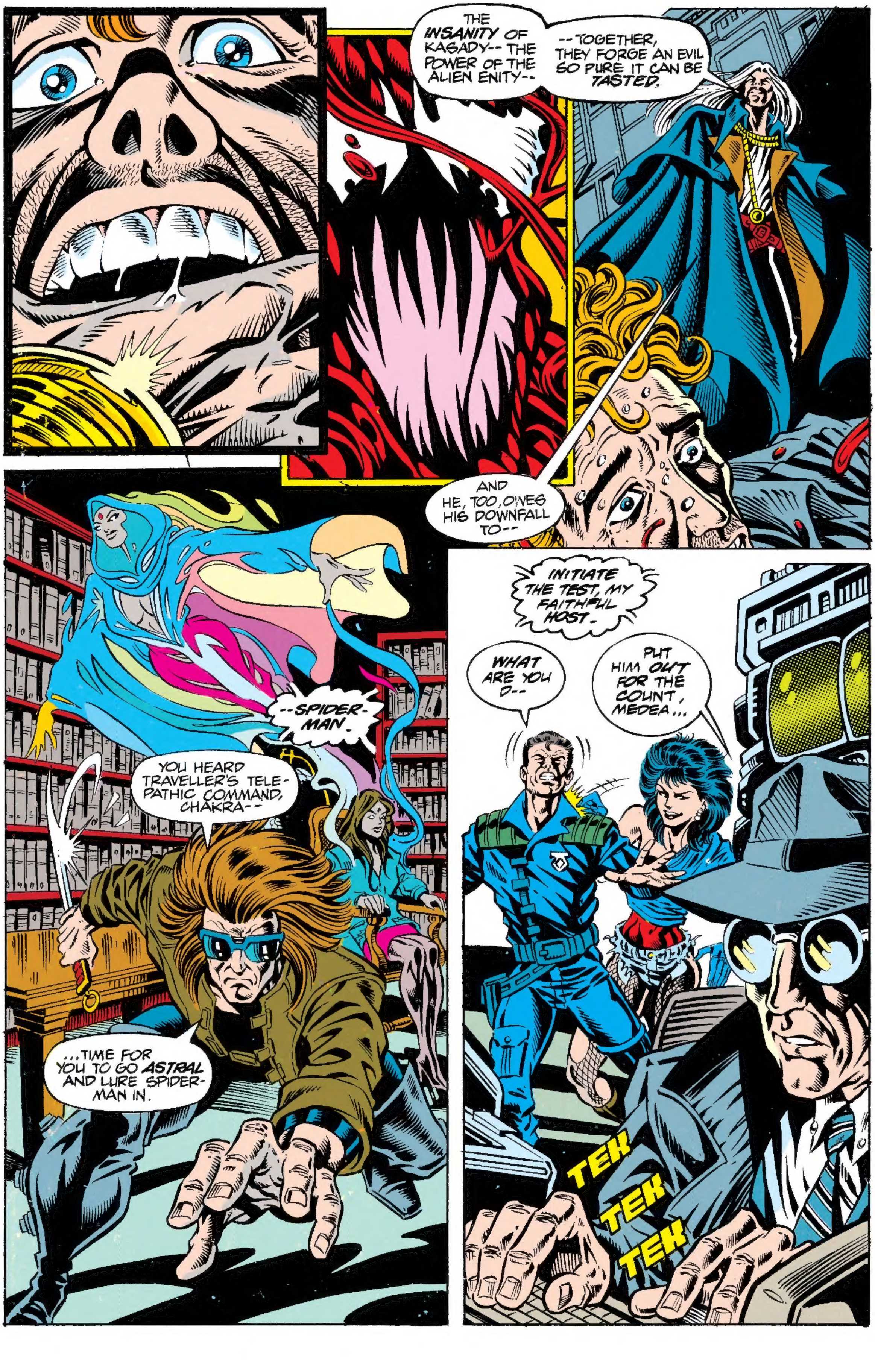

RAVENCROFT IS *EVERYTHING* I HOPED--AND FAR, FAR MORE--
--THE *PERFECT* LOCATION FOR OUR...
...ULTIMATE EXPERIMENT.
FIRST CASE-- *DMITRI SMERDYAKOV...* A.K.A. THE *CHAMELEON*.
AN INSPIRED MOMENT OF SELF-RECOGNITION FOR A MAN WHO WAS NEVER MORE THAN A *PALE COPY* OF HIS FRIENDS...
...AND A *HOLLOW REFLECTION* TO HIS *FOES*.


SADLY, THERE IS LITTLE LEFT IN YOUR SHATTERED MIND NOW...
...EXCEPT THE ECHO OF SPIDER-MAN.
GREATER CHALLENGES...
...AWAIT.
YAAAR!
FRANCES LOUISE BARRISON-- THE APTLY SELF-TITLED SHRIEK.


A WOMAN OF SCREAMING PRIMAL PAIN AND RAGE...
...DROWNED OUT ONLY BY SPIDER-MAN.
PATTERNS...
...REPEAT.
QUICK QUESTION BEFORE I KILL YOU, STRANGER...


...WHO'S RUNNIN' THE ASYLUM THESE DAYS?!
THE NAME IS TRAVELLER, CARNAGE...
...AND I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS MEETING FOR QUITE SOME TIME.
HOPE THIS LITTLE STARIN' MATCH ISN'T SUPPOSED TO...
...SCARE ME?
EVERYONE SEEMS TO THINK I'M JUST TOO CRAZY TO KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR ME--!
PERHAPS, CLETUS KASADY...
...BUT YOUR SYMBIOTE IS OBVIOUSLY NOT.


THE *INSANITY* OF KASADY-- THE POWER OF THE ALIEN ENITY--
--TOGETHER, THEY FORGE AN EVIL SO PURE IT CAN BE *TASTED.*
AND HE, TOO, OWES HIS DOWNFALL TO--
--SPIDER-MAN.
YOU HEARD TRAVELLER'S TELEPATHIC COMMAND, CHAKRA--
...TIME FOR YOU TO GO *ASTRAL* AND LURE SPIDER-MAN IN.
INITIATE THE TEST, MY FAITHFUL HOST.
WHAT ARE YOU D--
PUT HIM *OUT* FOR THE COUNT, MEDEA...
TEK
TEK
TEK

EXCERPT FROM *AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #394*

WRITER: J.M. DEMATTEIS • PENCILER: MARK BAGLEY • INKER: LARRY MAHLSTEDT • COLORIST: BOB SHAREN
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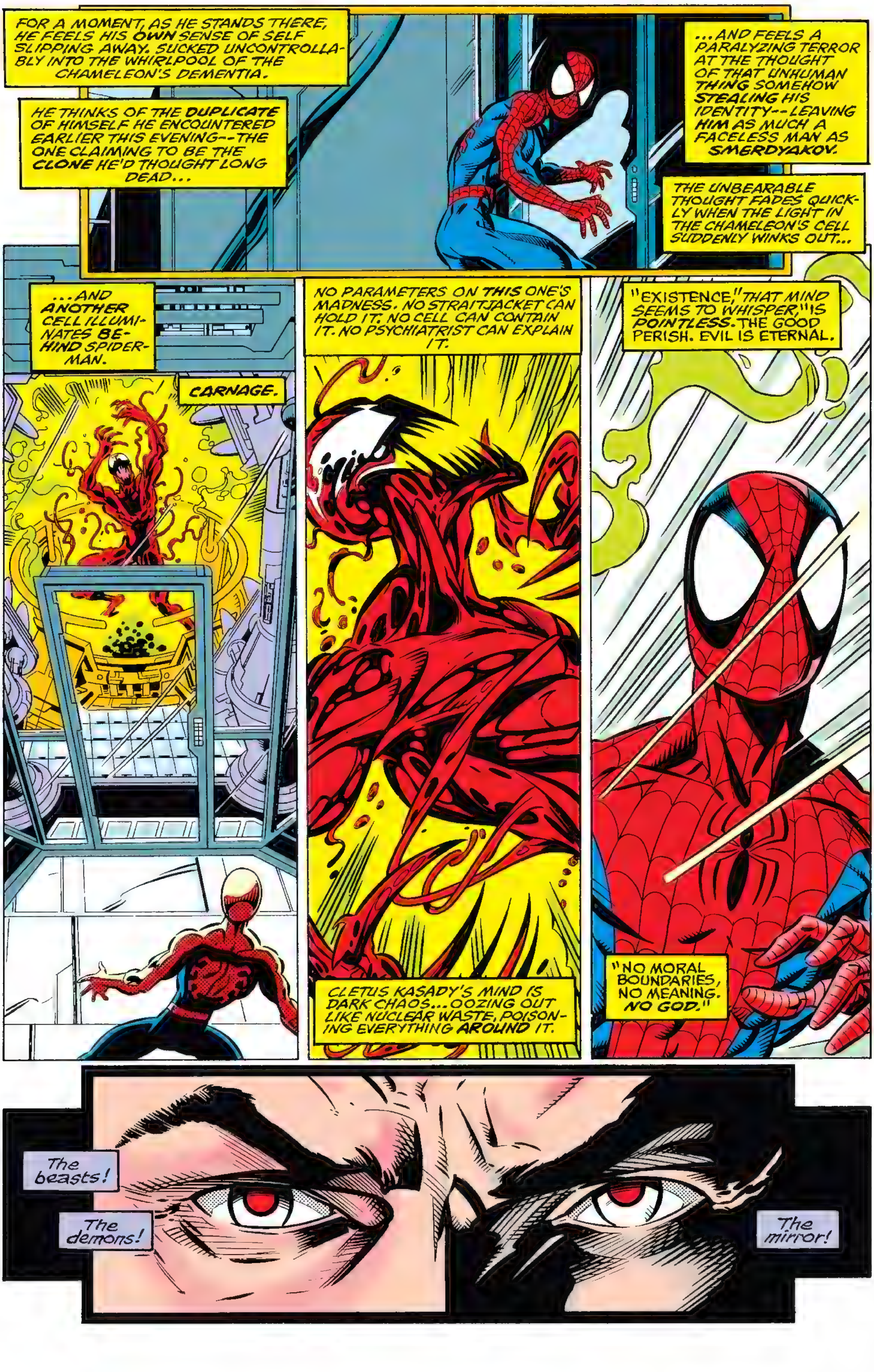
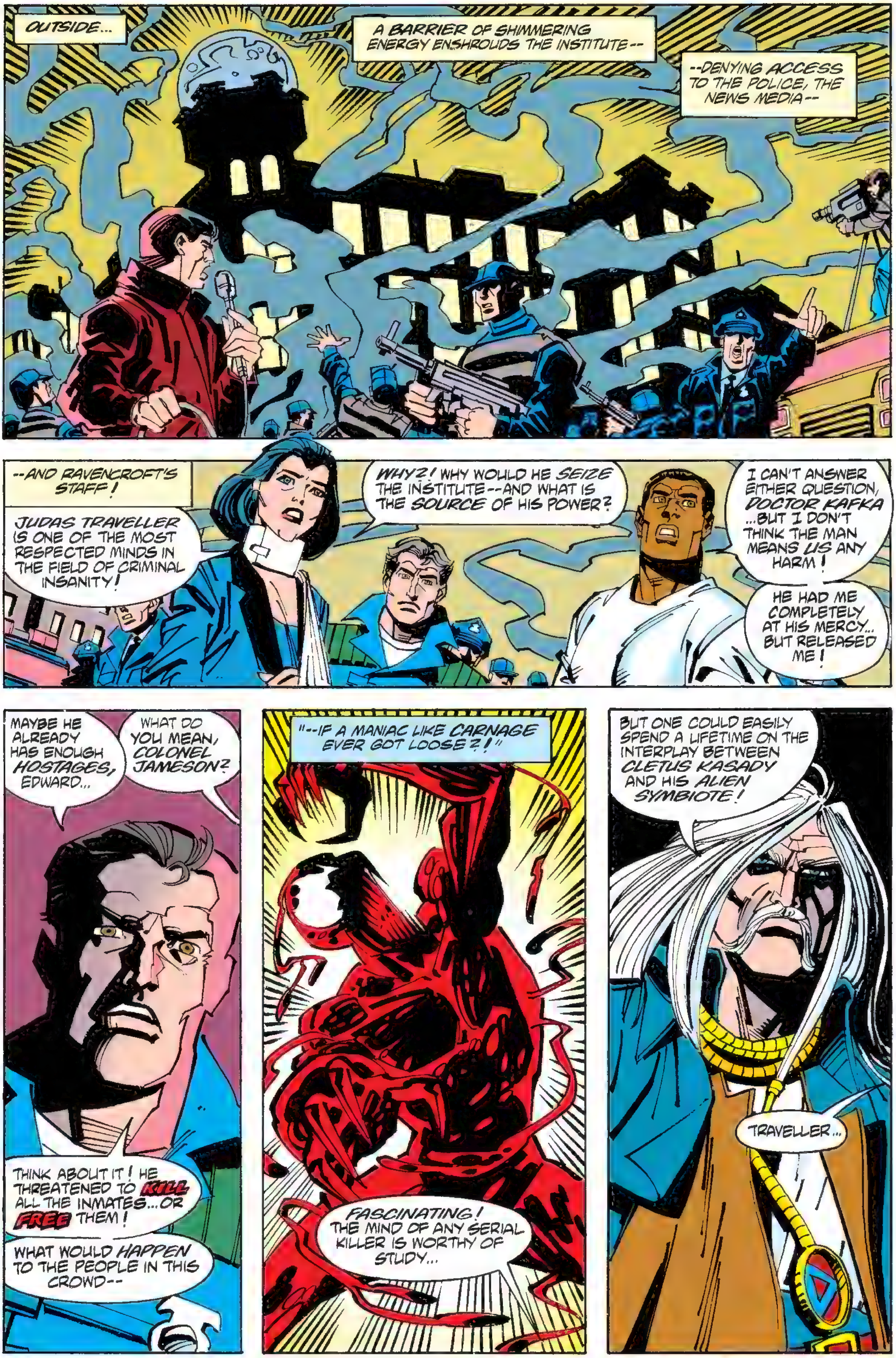
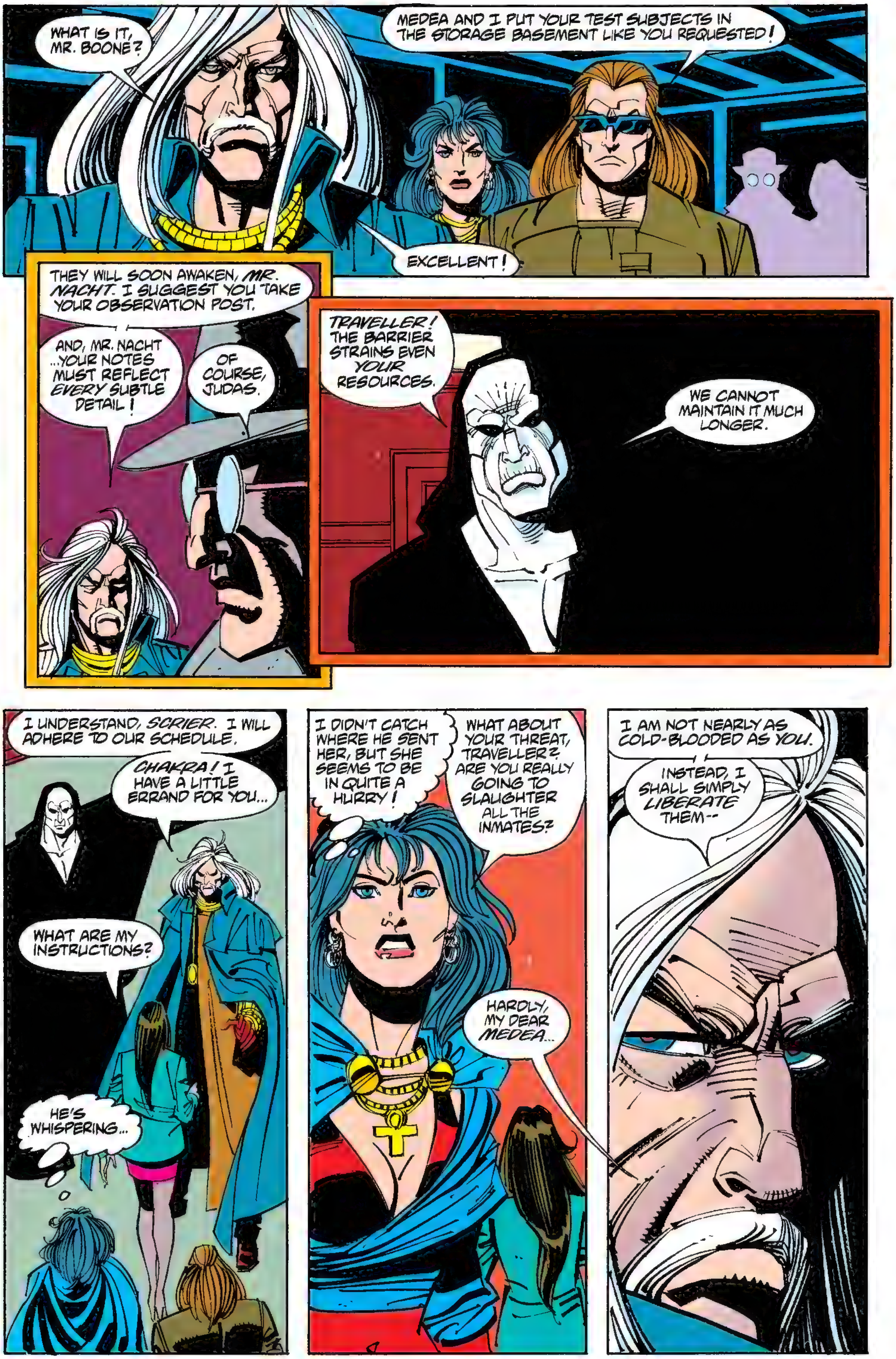
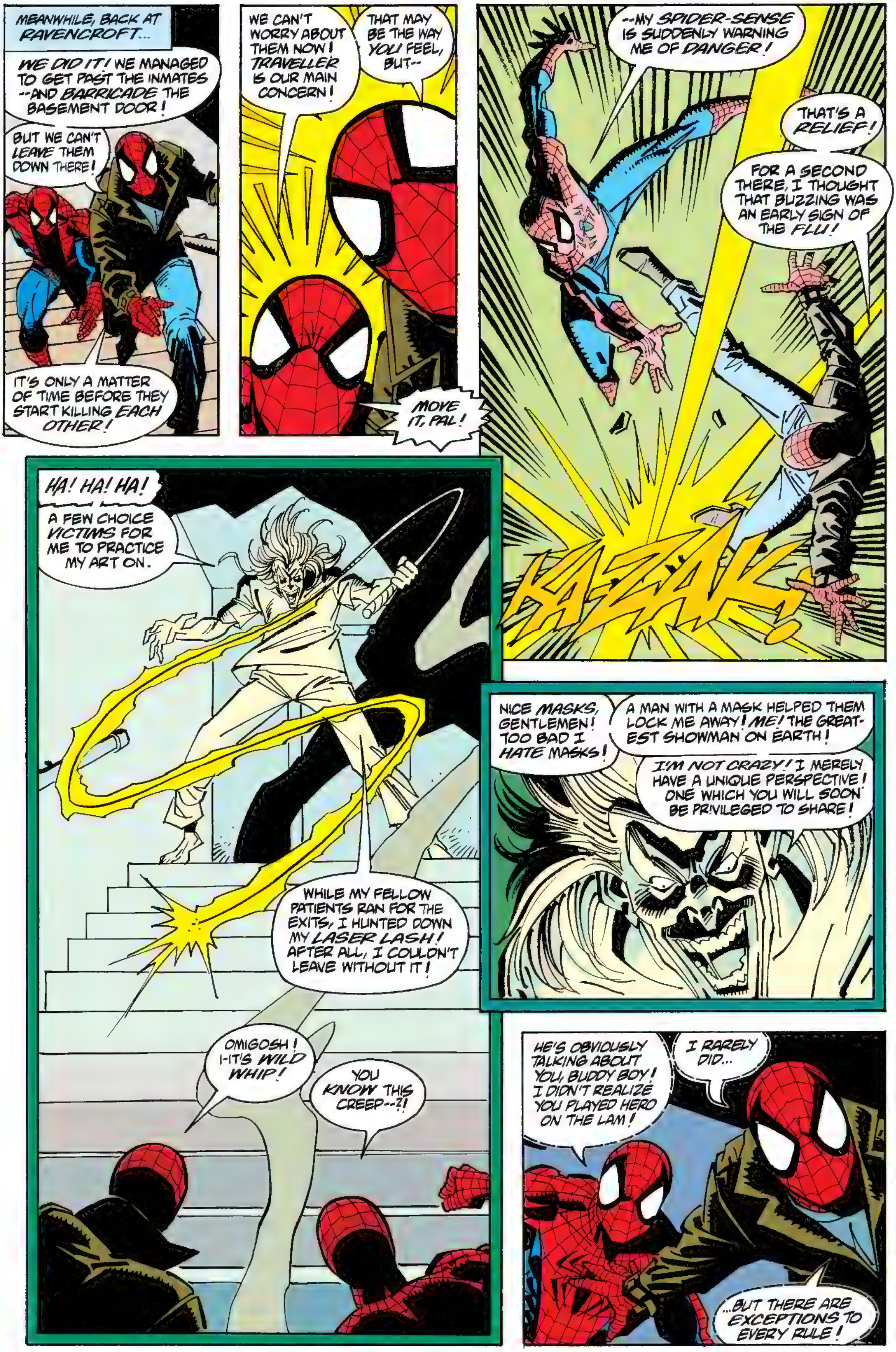

FOR A MOMENT, AS HE STANDS THERE, HE FEELS HIS OWN SENSE OF SELF SLIPPING AWAY, SUCKED UNCONTROLLABLY INTO THE WHIRLPOOL OF THE CHAMELEON'S DEMENTIA.
HE THINKS OF THE DUPLICATE OF HIMSELF HE ENCOUNTERED EARLIER THIS EVENING--THE ONE CLAIMING TO BE THE CLONE HE'D THOUGHT LONG DEAD...
...AND FEELS A PARALYZING TERROR AT THE THOUGHT OF THAT UNHUMAN THING SOMEHOW STEALING HIS IDENTITY--LEAVING HIM AS MUCH A FACELESS MAN AS SMERDYAKOV.
THE UNBEARABLE THOUGHT FADES QUICKLY WHEN THE LIGHT IN THE CHAMELEON'S CELL SUDDENLY WINKS OUT...
...AND ANOTHER CELL ILLUMINATES BEHIND SPIDER-MAN.
CARNAGE.
NO PARAMETERS ON THIS ONE'S MADNESS. NO STRAITJACKET CAN HOLD IT. NO CELL CAN CONTAIN IT. NO PSYCHIATRIST CAN EXPLAIN IT.
CLETUS KASADY'S MIND IS DARK CHAOS...OOZING OUT LIKE NUCLEAR WASTE, POISONING EVERYTHING AROUND IT.
"EXISTENCE," THAT MIND SEEMS TO WHISPER, "IS POINTLESS. THE GOOD PERISH. EVIL IS ETERNAL.
"NO MORAL BOUNDARIES, NO MEANING. NO GOD."
The beasts!
The demons!
The mirror!

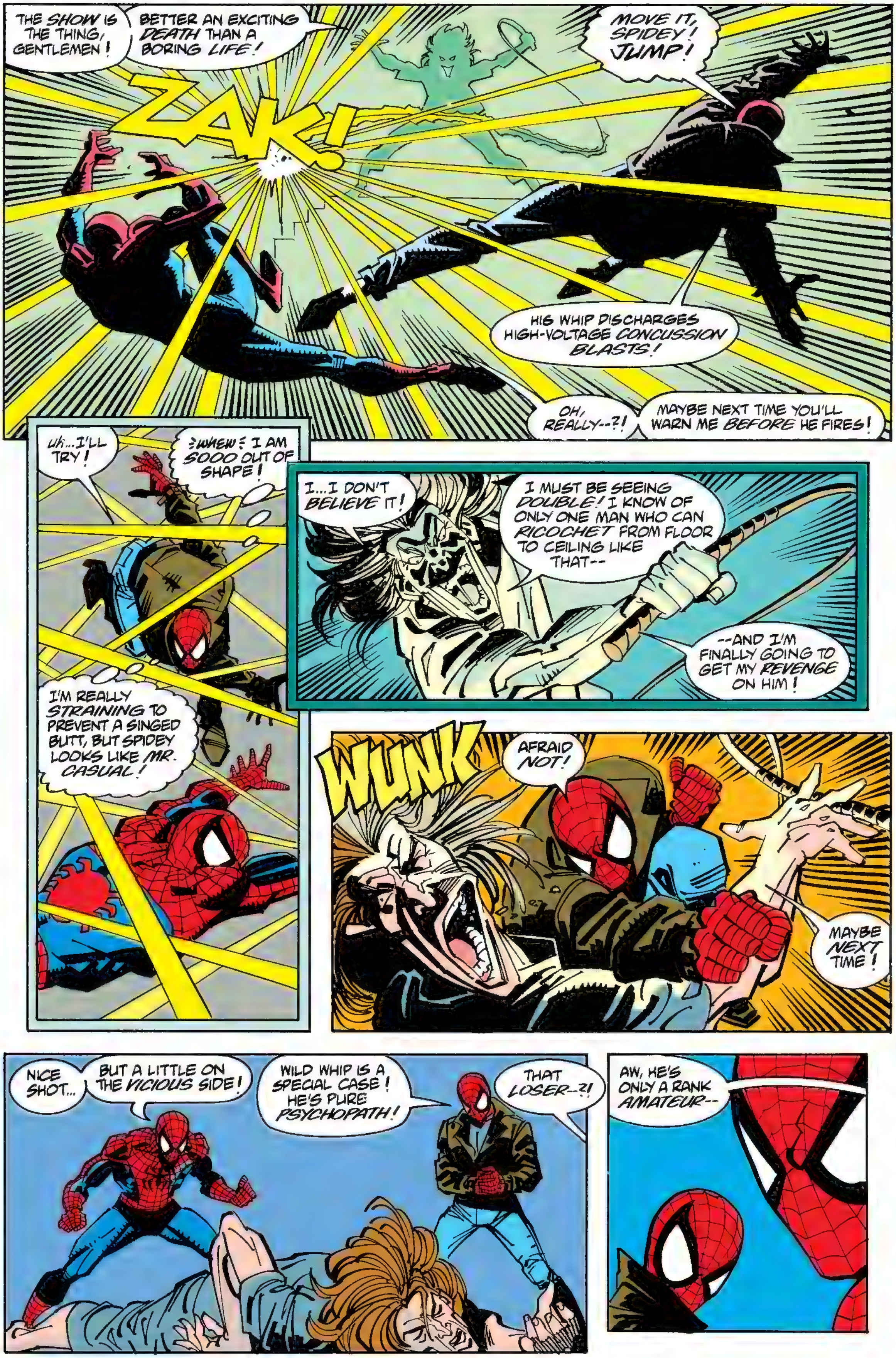
EXCERPT FROM *SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN* #217

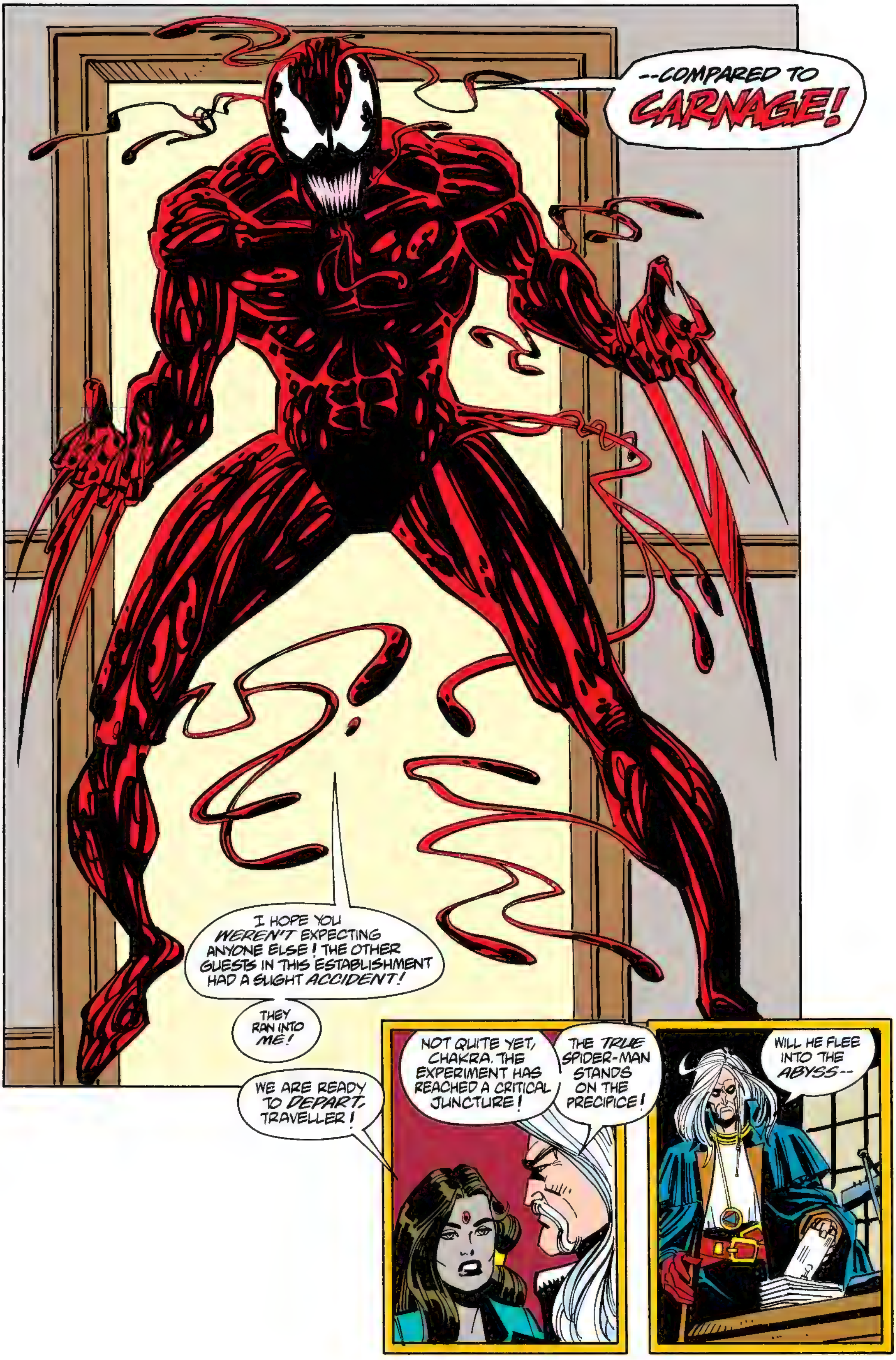
WRITER: TOM DeFALCO • ARTIST: SAL BUSCEMA • COLORIST: KEVIN TINSLEY • LETTERER: CLEM ROBINS
EDITOR: MARK POWERS • GROUP EDITOR: DANNY FINGEROTH

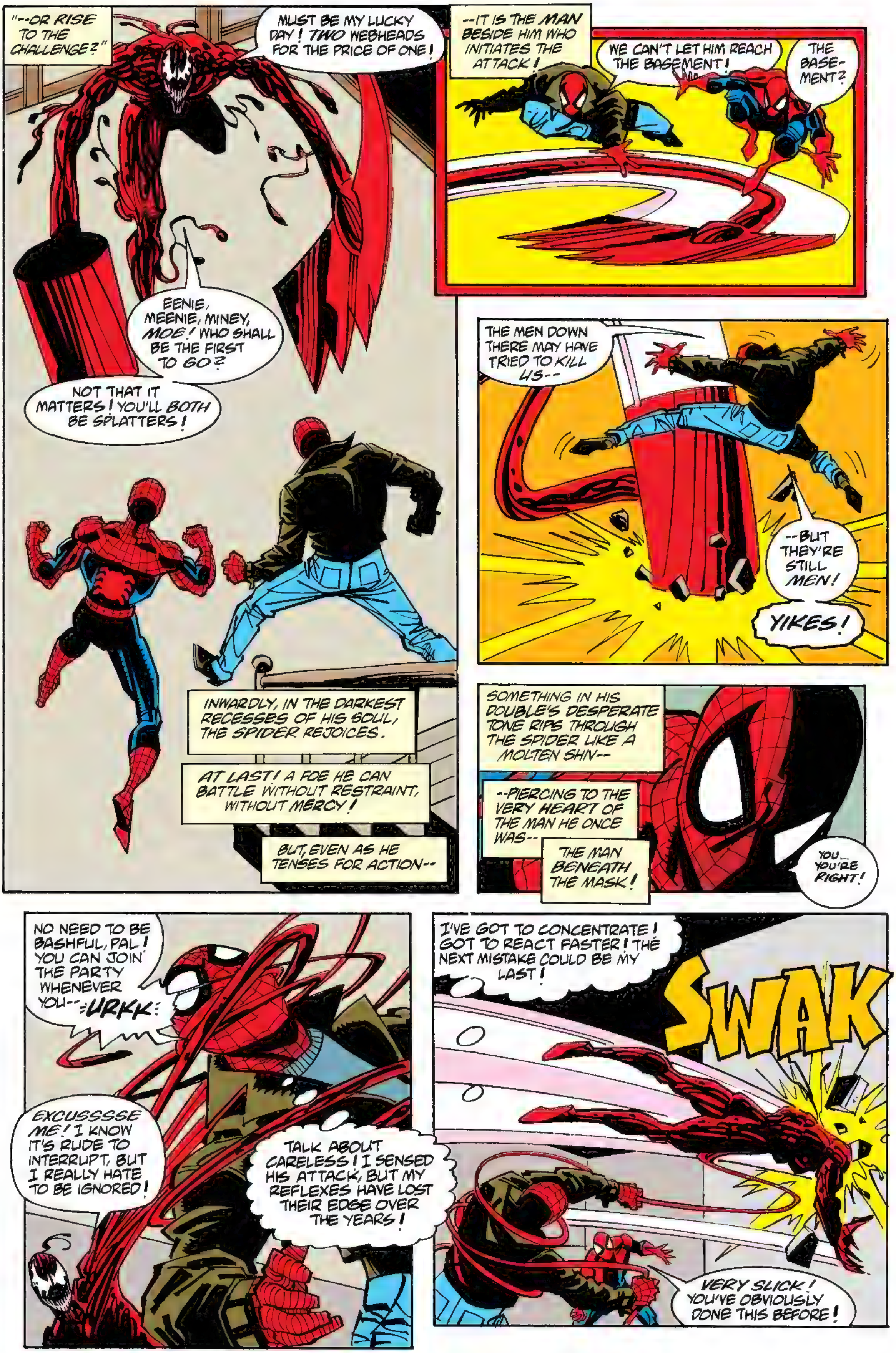

OUTSIDE...
A BARRIER OF SHIMMERING ENERGY ENSHROUDS THE INSTITUTE--
--DENYING ACCESS TO THE POLICE, THE NEWS MEDIA--
--AND RAVENCROFT'S STAFF!
JUDAS TRAVELLER IS ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED MINDS IN THE FIELD OF CRIMINAL INSANITY!
WHY?! WHY WOULD HE SEIZE THE INSTITUTE--AND WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF HIS POWER?
I CAN'T ANSWER EITHER QUESTION, DOCTOR KAFKA ...BUT I DON'T THINK THE MAN MEANS US ANY HARM!
HE HAD ME COMPLETELY AT HIS MERCY... BUT RELEASED ME!
MAYBE HE ALREADY HAS ENOUGH HOSTAGES, EDWARD...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, COLONEL JAMESON?
THINK ABOUT IT! HE THREATENED TO KILL ALL THE INMATES...OR FREE THEM!
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THE PEOPLE IN THIS CROWD--
"--IF A MANIAC LIKE CARNAGE EVER GOT LOOSE?!"
FASCINATING! THE MIND OF ANY SERIAL KILLER IS WORTHY OF STUDY...
BUT ONE COULD EASILY SPEND A LIFETIME ON THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN CLETUS KASADY AND HIS ALIEN SYMBIOTE!
TRAVELLER...

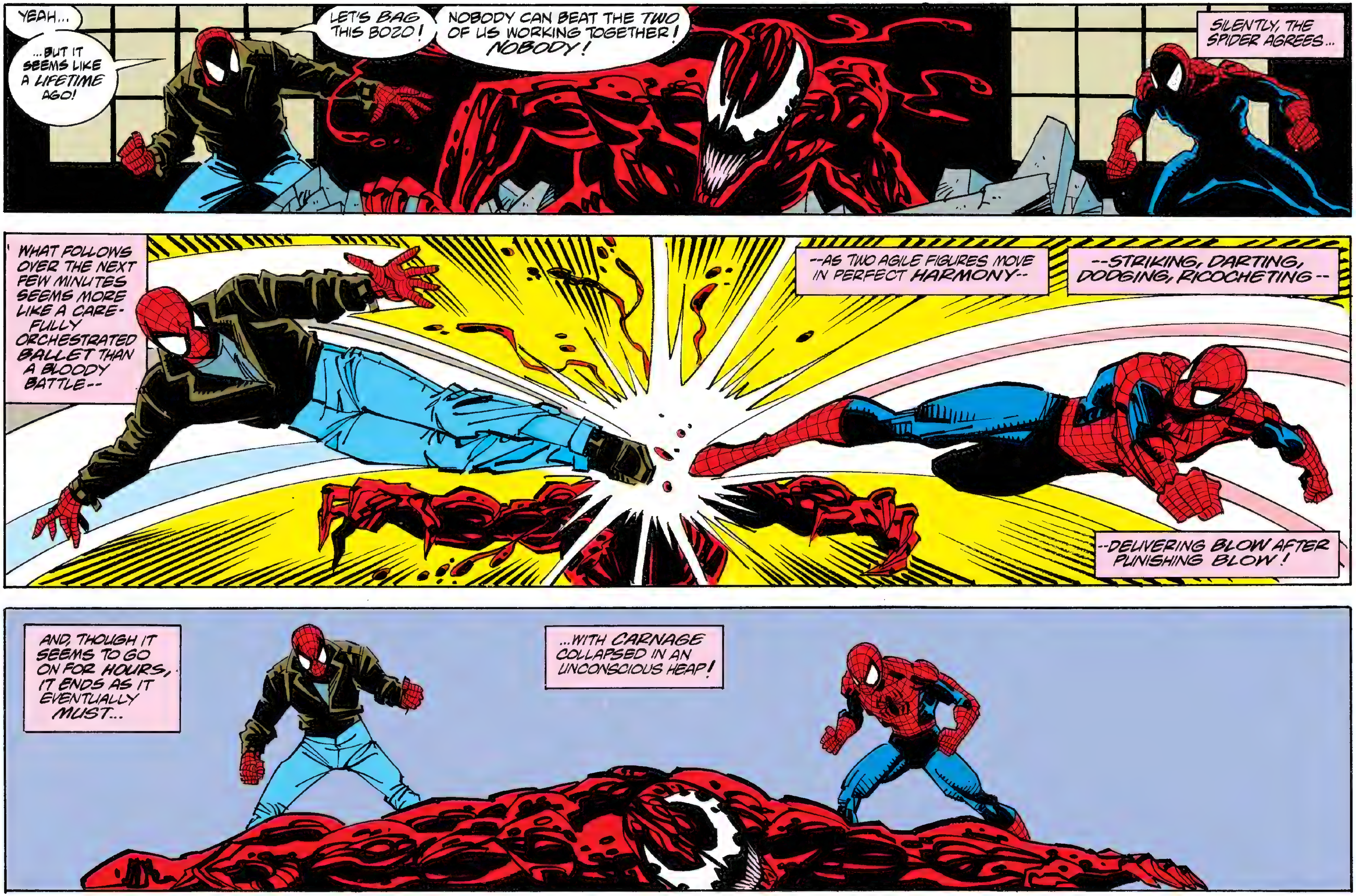

WHAT IS IT, MR. BOONE?
MEDEA AND I PUT YOUR TEST SUBJECTS IN THE STORAGE BASEMENT LIKE YOU REQUESTED!
EXCELLENT!
THEY WILL SOON AWAKEN, MR. NACHT. I SUGGEST YOU TAKE YOUR OBSERVATION POST.
AND, MR. NACHT ...YOUR NOTES MUST REFLECT EVERY SUBTLE DETAIL!
OF COURSE, JUDAS.
TRAVELLER! THE BARRIER STRAINS EVEN YOUR RESOURCES.
WE CANNOT MAINTAIN IT MUCH LONGER.
I UNDERSTAND, SCRIER. I WILL ADHERE TO OUR SCHEDULE.
CHAKRA! I HAVE A LITTLE ERRAND FOR YOU...
WHAT ARE MY INSTRUCTIONS?
HE'S WHISPERING...
I DIDN'T CATCH WHERE HE SENT HER, BUT SHE SEEMS TO BE IN QUITE A HURRY!
WHAT ABOUT YOUR THREAT, TRAVELLER? ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO SLAUGHTER ALL THE INMATES?
HARDLY, MY DEAR MEDEA...
I AM NOT NEARLY AS COLD-BLOODED AS YOU.
INSTEAD, I SHALL SIMPLY LIBERATE THEM--


MEANWHILE, BACK AT RAVENCROFT...
WE DID IT! WE MANAGED TO GET PAST THE INMATES --AND BARRICADE THE BASEMENT DOOR!
BUT WE CAN'T LEAVE THEM DOWN THERE!
IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY START KILLING EACH OTHER!
WE CAN'T WORRY ABOUT THEM NOW! TRAVELLER IS OUR MAIN CONCERN!
THAT MAY BE THE WAY YOU FEEL, BUT--
--MY SPIDER-SENSE IS SUDDENLY WARNING ME OF DANGER!
MOVE IT, PAL!
THAT'S A RELIEF!
FOR A SECOND THERE, I THOUGHT THAT BUZZING WAS AN EARLY SIGN OF THE FLU!
KAZAK!
HA! HA! HA!
A FEW CHOICE VICTIMS FOR ME TO PRACTICE MY ART ON.
WHILE MY FELLOW PATIENTS RAN FOR THE EXITS, I HUNTED DOWN MY LASER LASH! AFTER ALL, I COULDN'T LEAVE WITHOUT IT!
OMIGOSH! I-IT'S WILD WHIP!
YOU KNOW THIS CREEP--?!
NICE MASKS, GENTLEMEN! TOO BAD I HATE MASKS!
A MAN WITH A MASK HELPED THEM LOCK ME AWAY! ME! THE GREATEST SHOWMAN ON EARTH!
I'M NOT CRAZY! I MERELY HAVE A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE! ONE WHICH YOU WILL SOON BE PRIVILEGED TO SHARE!
HE'S OBVIOUSLY TALKING ABOUT YOU, BUDDY BOY! I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU PLAYED HERO ON THE LAM!
I RARELY DID...
...BUT THERE ARE EXCEPTIONS TO EVERY RULE!


THE SHOW IS THE THING, GENTLEMEN!
BETTER AN EXCITING DEATH THAN A BORING LIFE!
ZAK!
MOVE IT, SPIDEY! JUMP!
HIS WHIP DISCHARGES HIGH-VOLTAGE CONCUSSION BLASTS!
OH, REALLY--?!
MAYBE NEXT TIME YOU'LL WARN ME BEFORE HE FIRES!
UH... I'LL TRY!
WHEW! I AM SOOO OUT OF SHAPE!
I'M REALLY STRAINING TO PREVENT A SINGED BUTT, BUT SPIDEY LOOKS LIKE MR. CASUAL!
I... I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
I MUST BE SEEING DOUBLE! I KNOW OF ONLY ONE MAN WHO CAN RICOCHET FROM FLOOR TO CEILING LIKE THAT--
--AND I'M FINALLY GOING TO GET MY REVENGE ON HIM!
WUNK
AFRAID NOT!
MAYBE NEXT TIME!
NICE SHOT...
BUT A LITTLE ON THE VICIOUS SIDE!
WILD WHIP IS A SPECIAL CASE! HE'S PURE PSYCHOPATH!
THAT LOSER--?!
AW, HE'S ONLY A RANK AMATEUR--


--COMPARED TO *CARNAGE!*
I HOPE YOU *WEREN'T* EXPECTING ANYONE ELSE! THE OTHER GUESTS IN THIS ESTABLISHMENT HAD A SLIGHT *ACCIDENT!*
THEY RAN INTO *ME!*
WE ARE READY TO *DEPART,* TRAVELLER!
NOT QUITE YET, CHAKRA. THE EXPERIMENT HAS REACHED A CRITICAL JUNCTURE!
THE *TRUE* SPIDER-MAN STANDS ON THE PRECIPICE!
WILL HE FLEE INTO THE *ABYSS*--


"--OR RISE TO THE CHALLENGE?"
MUST BE MY LUCKY DAY! TWO WEBHEADS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!
EENIE, MEENIE, MINEY, MOE! WHO SHALL BE THE FIRST TO GO?
NOT THAT IT MATTERS! YOU'LL BOTH BE SPLATTERS!
INWARDLY, IN THE DARKEST RECESSES OF HIS SOUL, THE SPIDER REJOICES.
AT LAST! A FOE HE CAN BATTLE WITHOUT RESTRAINT, WITHOUT MERCY!
BUT, EVEN AS HE TENSES FOR ACTION--
--IT IS THE MAN BESIDE HIM WHO INITIATES THE ATTACK!
WE CAN'T LET HIM REACH THE BASEMENT!
THE BASEMENT?
THE MEN DOWN THERE MAY HAVE TRIED TO KILL US--
--BUT THEY'RE STILL MEN!
YIKES!
SOMETHING IN HIS DOUBLE'S DESPERATE TONE RIPS THROUGH THE SPIDER LIKE A MOLTEN SHIV--
--PIERCING TO THE VERY HEART OF THE MAN HE ONCE WAS--
THE MAN BENEATH THE MASK!
YOU... YOU'RE RIGHT!
NO NEED TO BE BASHFUL, PAL! YOU CAN JOIN THE PARTY WHENEVER YOU-- URKK!
EXCUSSSSE ME! I KNOW IT'S RUDE TO INTERRUPT, BUT I REALLY HATE TO BE IGNORED!
TALK ABOUT CARELESS! I SENSED HIS ATTACK, BUT MY REFLEXES HAVE LOST THEIR EDGE OVER THE YEARS!
I'VE GOT TO CONCENTRATE! GOT TO REACT FASTER! THE NEXT MISTAKE COULD BE MY LAST!
SWAK
VERY SLICK! YOU'VE OBVIOUSLY DONE THIS BEFORE!


YEAH... ...BUT IT SEEMS LIKE A LIFETIME AGO!
LET'S BAG THIS BOZO!
NOBODY CAN BEAT THE TWO OF US WORKING TOGETHER! NOBODY!
SILENTLY, THE SPIDER AGREES...
WHAT FOLLOWS OVER THE NEXT FEW MINUTES SEEMS MORE LIKE A CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED BALLET THAN A BLOODY BATTLE--
--AS TWO AGILE FIGURES MOVE IN PERFECT HARMONY--
--STRIKING, DARTING, DODGING, RICOCHETING--
--DELIVERING BLOW AFTER PUNISHING BLOW!
AND, THOUGH IT SEEMS TO GO ON FOR HOURS, IT ENDS AS IT EVENTUALLY MUST...
...WITH CARNAGE COLLAPSED IN AN UNCONSCIOUS HEAP!

THE JACKAL SOON BEGAN TAKING A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN HIS SCHEMES, AS SEEN IN THIS EXCERPT FROM *SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #223*...

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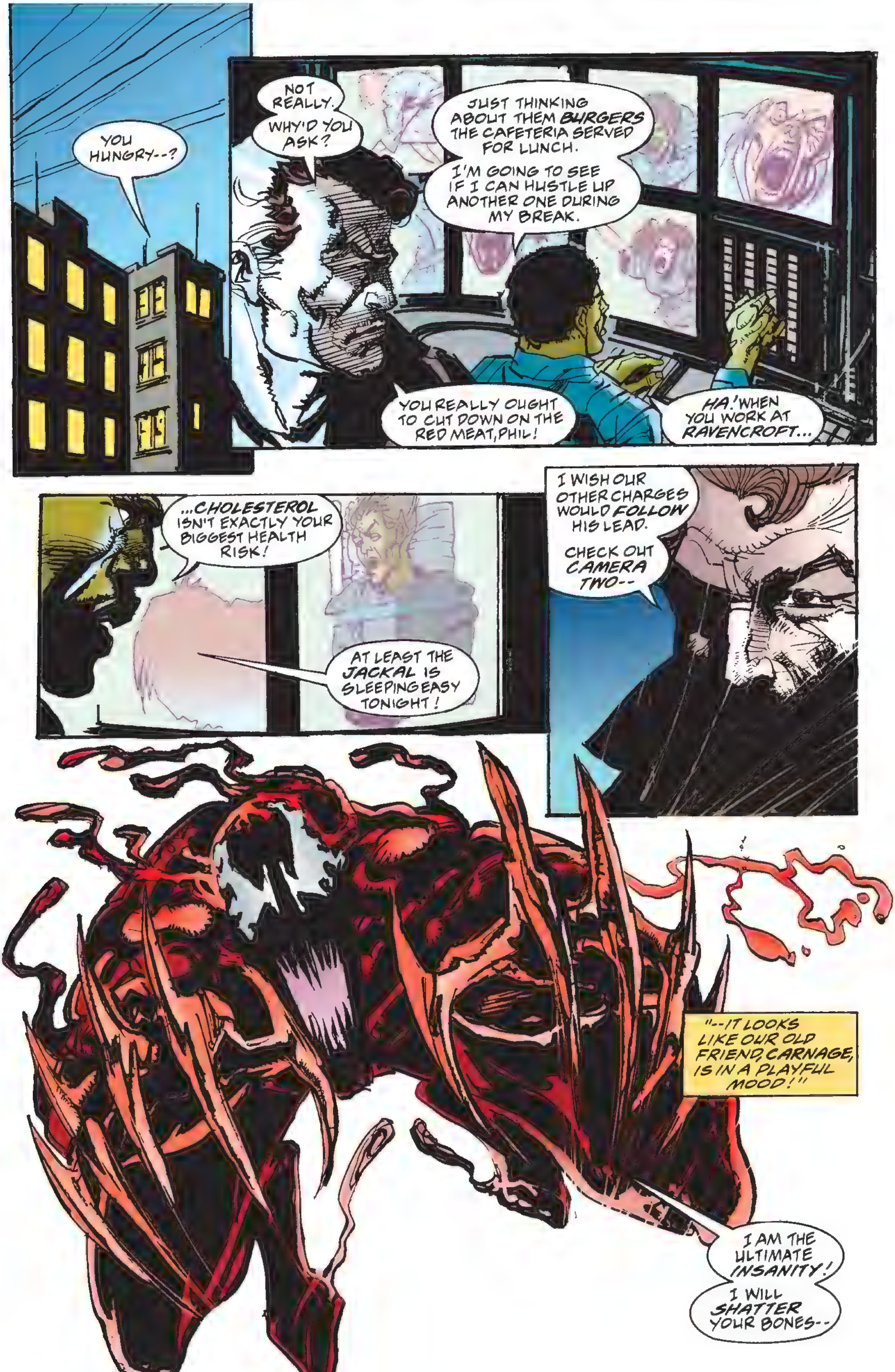
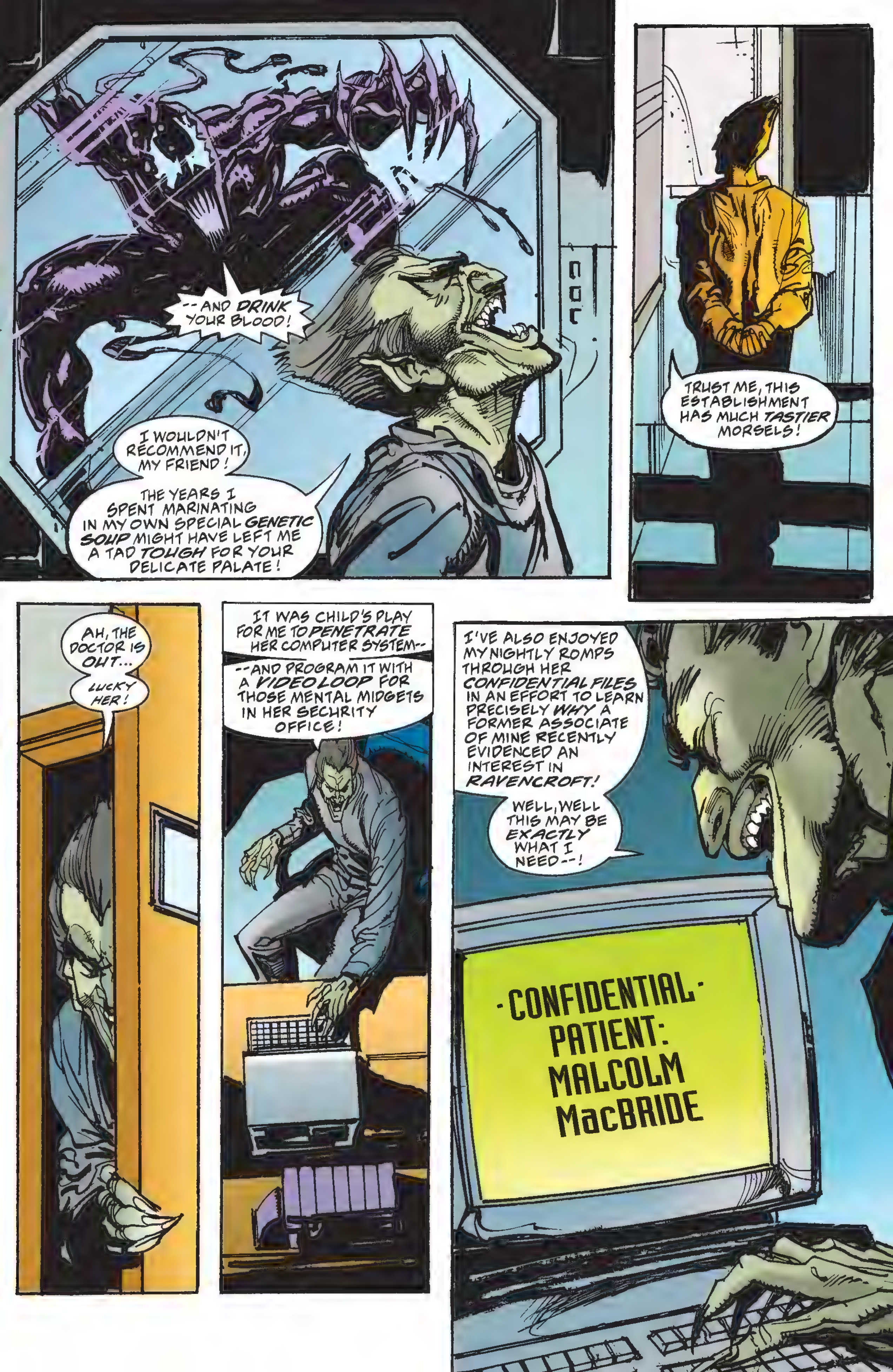
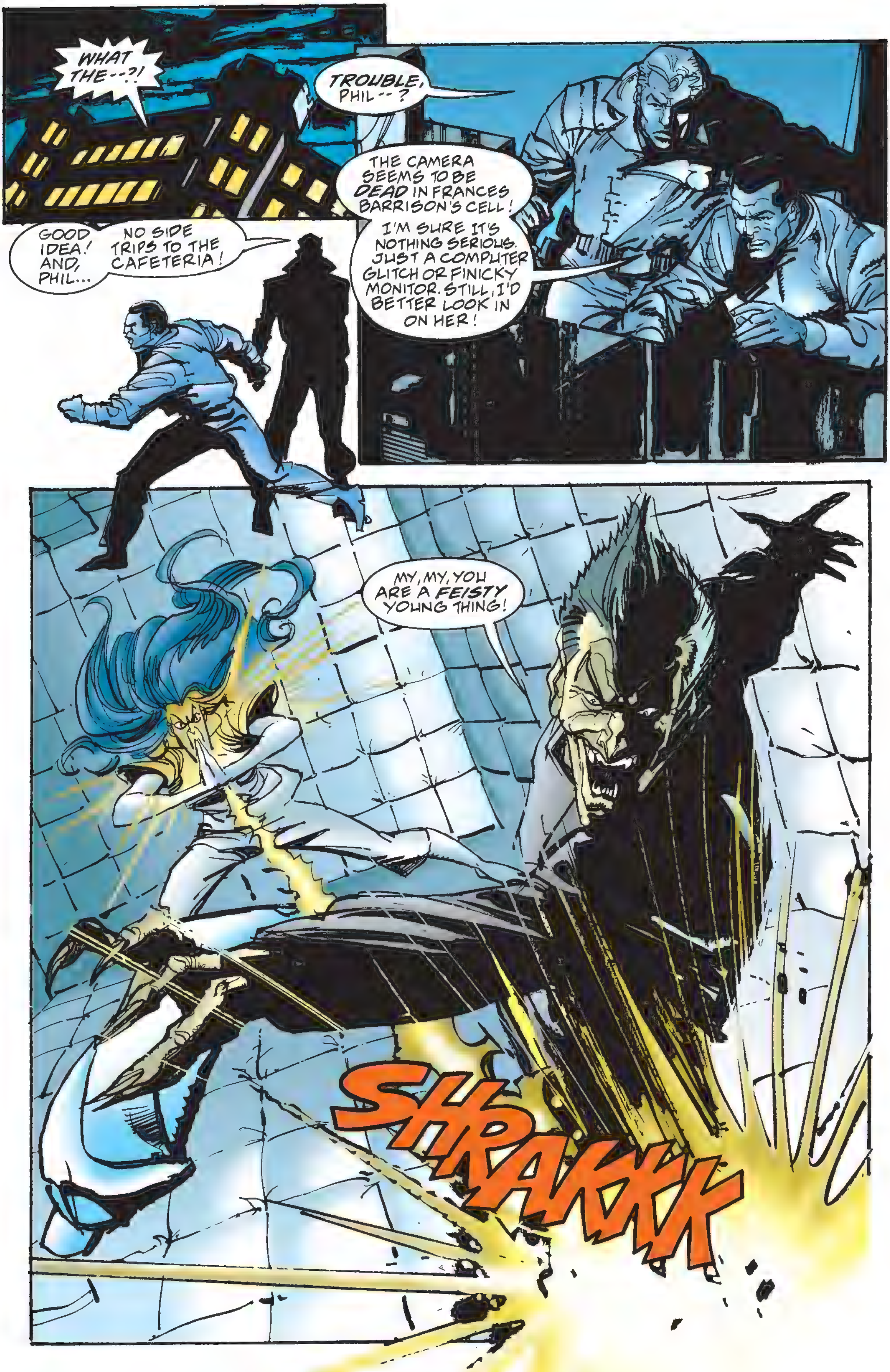
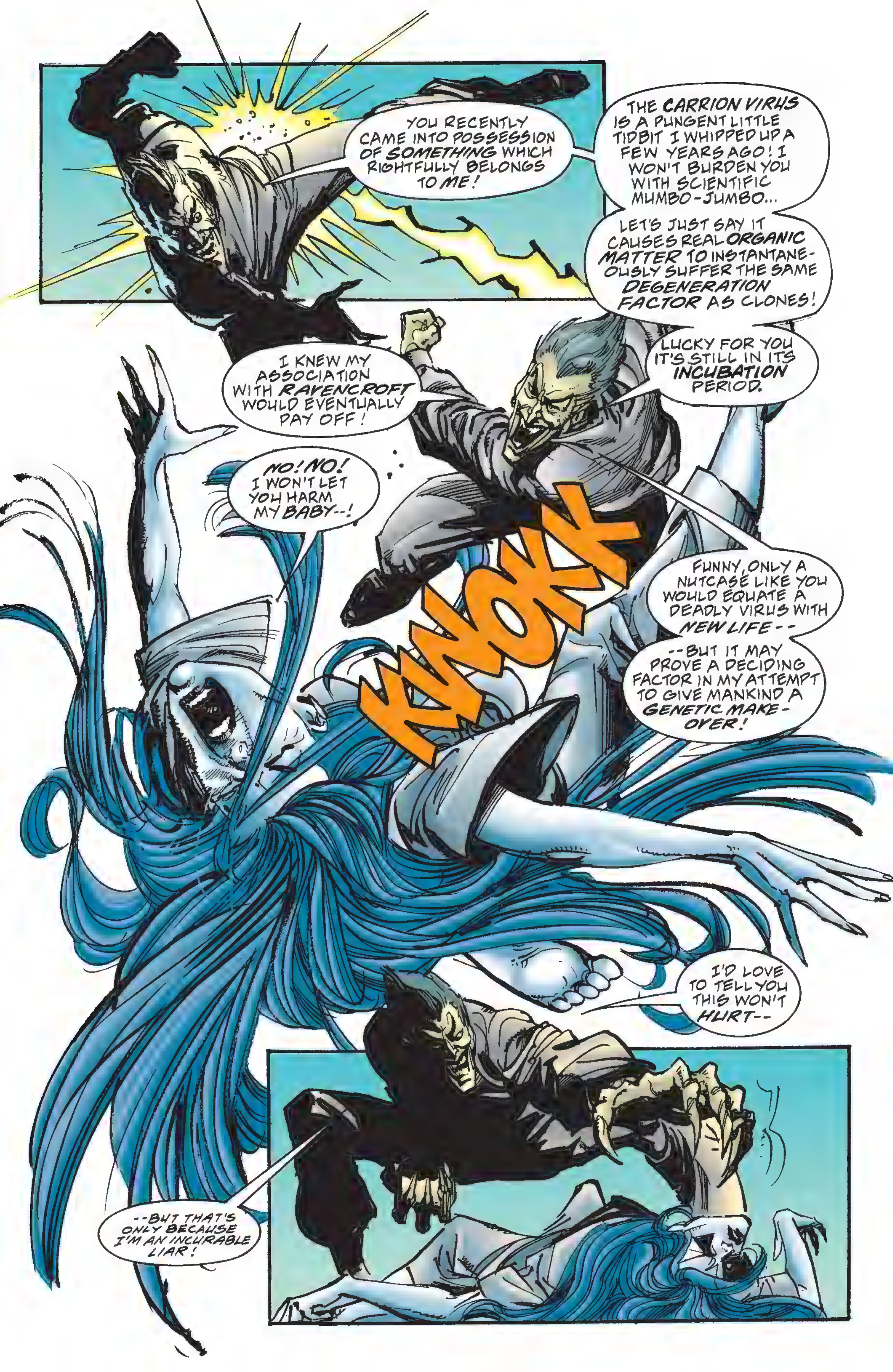
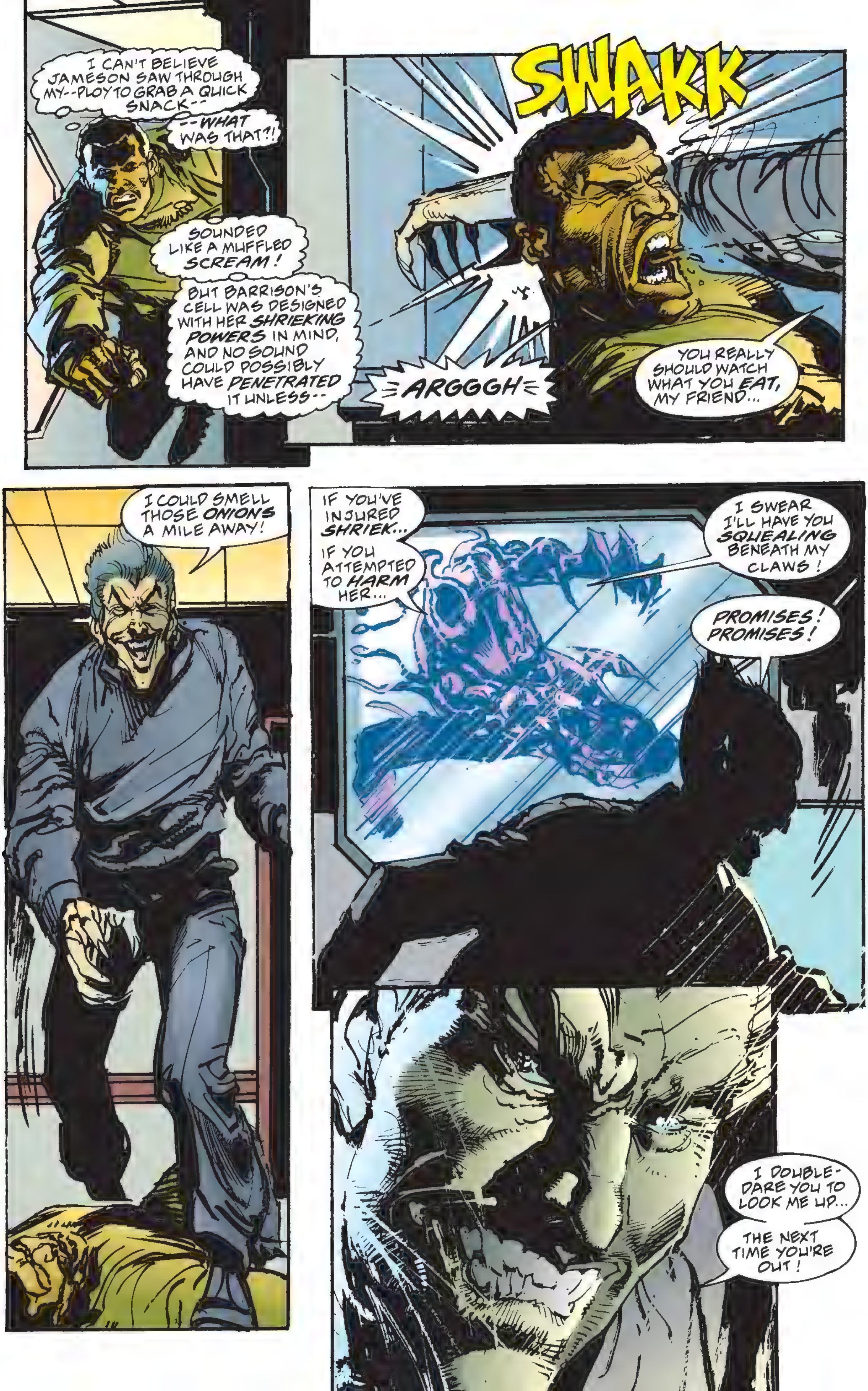
LETTERER: LORETTA KROL • EDITOR: ERIC FEIN • GROUP EDITOR: DANNY FINGEROTH


YOU HUNGRY--?
NOT REALLY.
WHY'D YOU ASK?
JUST THINKING ABOUT THEM BURGERS THE CAFETERIA SERVED FOR LUNCH.
I'M GOING TO SEE IF I CAN HUSTLE UP ANOTHER ONE DURING MY BREAK.
YOU REALLY OUGHT TO CUT DOWN ON THE RED MEAT, PHIL!
HA! WHEN YOU WORK AT RAVENCROFT...
...CHOLESTEROL ISN'T EXACTLY YOUR BIGGEST HEALTH RISK!
AT LEAST THE JACKAL IS SLEEPING EASY TONIGHT!
I WISH OUR OTHER CHARGES WOULD FOLLOW HIS LEAD.
CHECK OUT CAMERA TWO--
"--IT LOOKS LIKE OUR OLD FRIEND, CARNAGE, IS IN A PLAYFUL MOOD!"
I AM THE ULTIMATE INSANITY!
I WILL SHATTER YOUR BONES--

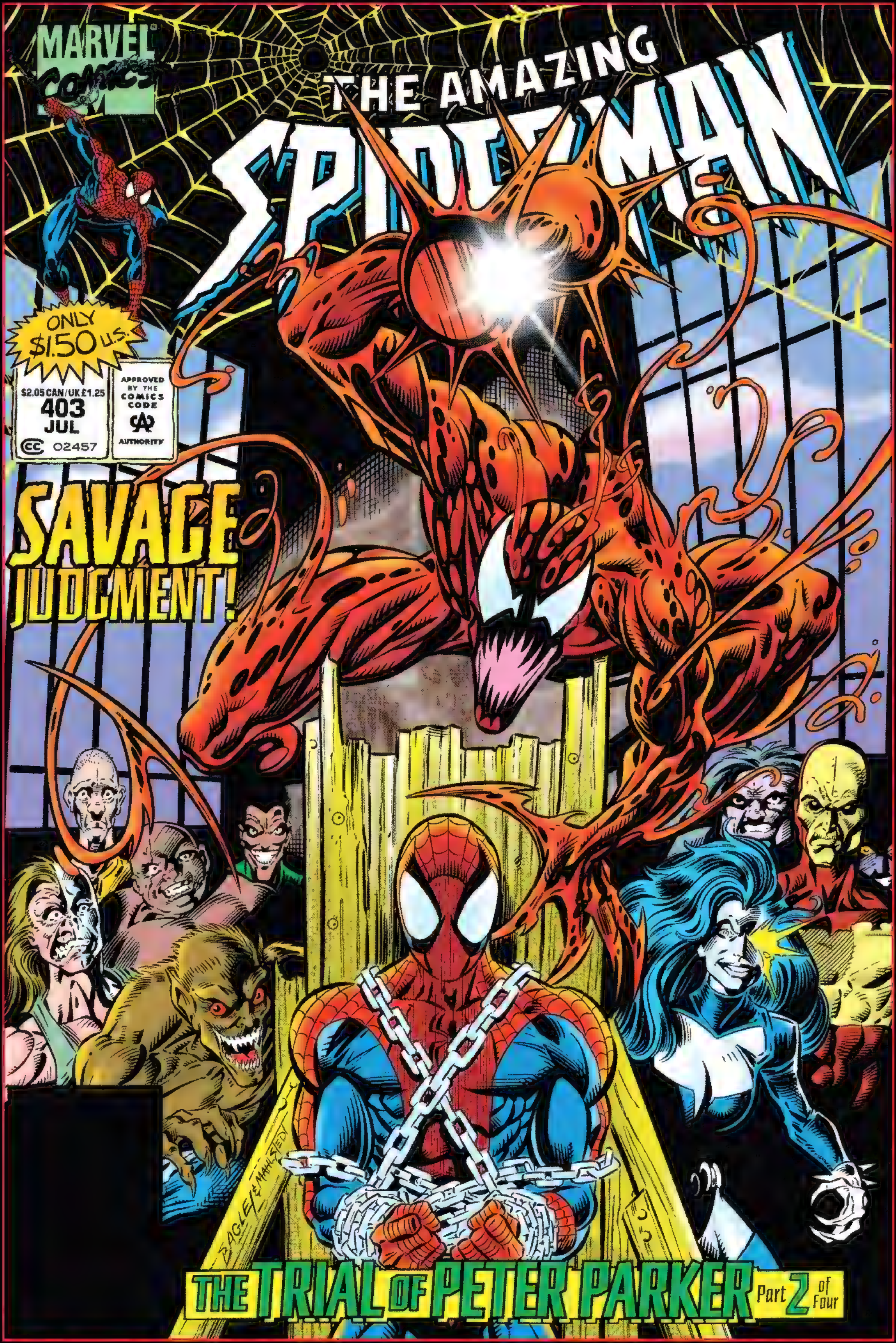

--AND *DRINK* YOUR BLOOD!
I WOULDN'T RECOMMEND IT, MY FRIEND!
THE YEARS I SPENT MARINATING IN MY OWN SPECIAL *GENETIC SOUP* MIGHT HAVE LEFT ME A TAD *TOUGH* FOR YOUR DELICATE PALATE!
TRUST ME, THIS ESTABLISHMENT HAS MUCH *TASTIER* MORSELS!
AH, THE DOCTOR IS *OUT*...
LUCKY HER!
IT WAS CHILD'S PLAY FOR ME TO *PENETRATE* HER COMPUTER SYSTEM--
--AND PROGRAM IT WITH A *VIDEOLOOP* FOR THOSE MENTAL MIDGETS IN HER SECURITY OFFICE!
I'VE ALSO ENJOYED MY NIGHTLY ROMPS THROUGH HER *CONFIDENTIAL FILES* IN AN EFFORT TO LEARN PRECISELY *WHY* A FORMER ASSOCIATE OF MINE RECENTLY EVIDENCED AN INTEREST IN *RAVENCROFT!*
WELL, WELL THIS MAY BE *EXACTLY* WHAT I NEED--!
·CONFIDENTIAL·
PATIENT:
MALCOLM MacBRIDE


WHAT THE--?!
TROUBLE, PHIL--?
THE CAMERA SEEMS TO BE *DEAD* IN FRANCES BARRISON'S CELL!
I'M SURE IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS. JUST A COMPUTER GLITCH OR FINICKY MONITOR. STILL, I'D BETTER LOOK IN ON HER!
GOOD IDEA! AND, PHIL...
NO SIDE TRIPS TO THE CAFETERIA!
MY, MY, YOU ARE A *FEISTY* YOUNG THING!
SHRAKKK


YOU RECENTLY CAME INTO POSSESSION OF SOMETHING WHICH RIGHTFULLY BELONGS TO ME!
THE CARRION VIRUS IS A PUNGENT LITTLE TIDBIT I WHIPPED UP A FEW YEARS AGO! I WON'T BURDEN YOU WITH SCIENTIFIC MUMBO-JUMBO...
LET'S JUST SAY IT CAUSES REAL ORGANIC MATTER TO INSTANTANEOUSLY SUFFER THE SAME DEGENERATION FACTOR AS CLONES!
I KNEW MY ASSOCIATION WITH RAVENCROFT WOULD EVENTUALLY PAY OFF!
LUCKY FOR YOU IT'S STILL IN ITS INCUBATION PERIOD.
NO! NO! I WON'T LET YOU HARM MY BABY--!
KNOKK
FUNNY, ONLY A NUTCASE LIKE YOU WOULD EQUATE A DEADLY VIRUS WITH NEW LIFE--
--BUT IT MAY PROVE A DECIDING FACTOR IN MY ATTEMPT TO GIVE MANKIND A GENETIC MAKE-OVER!
I'D LOVE TO TELL YOU THIS WON'T HURT--
--BUT THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE I'M AN INCURABLE LIAR!


I CAN'T BELIEVE JAMESON SAW THROUGH MY--PLOY TO GRAB A QUICK SNACK--
--WHAT WAS THAT?!
SOUNDED LIKE A MUFFLED SCREAM!
BUT BARRISON'S CELL WAS DESIGNED WITH HER SHRIEKING POWERS IN MIND, AND NO SOUND COULD POSSIBLY HAVE PENETRATED IT UNLESS--
SWAKK
ARGGGH
YOU REALLY SHOULD WATCH WHAT YOU EAT, MY FRIEND...
I COULD SMELL THOSE ONIONS A MILE AWAY!
IF YOU'VE INJURED SHRIEK...
IF YOU ATTEMPTED TO HARM HER...
I SWEAR I'LL HAVE YOU SQUEALING BENEATH MY CLAWS!
PROMISES! PROMISES!
I DOUBLE-DARE YOU TO LOOK ME UP...
THE NEXT TIME YOU'RE OUT!

AS THE CLONE SAGA CONTINUED, PETER PARKER WAS ARRESTED AND PUT ON TRIAL FOR MURDERS COMMITTED BY THE MYSTERIOUS KAINE. PETER'S CLONE BEN REILLY, NOW KNOWN AS THE SCARLET SPIDER, SWITCHED PLACES WITH PETER SO SPIDER-MAN COULD SEEK OUT THE TRUTH. AS SPIDER-MAN BATTLED KAINE, DR. OCTOPUS' PARTNER STUNNER ARRIVED WITH HER OWN SCORE TO SETTLE — WHEN JUDAS TRAVELLER SUDDENLY APPEARED AND TELEPORTED SPIDER-MAN AND KAINE AWAY!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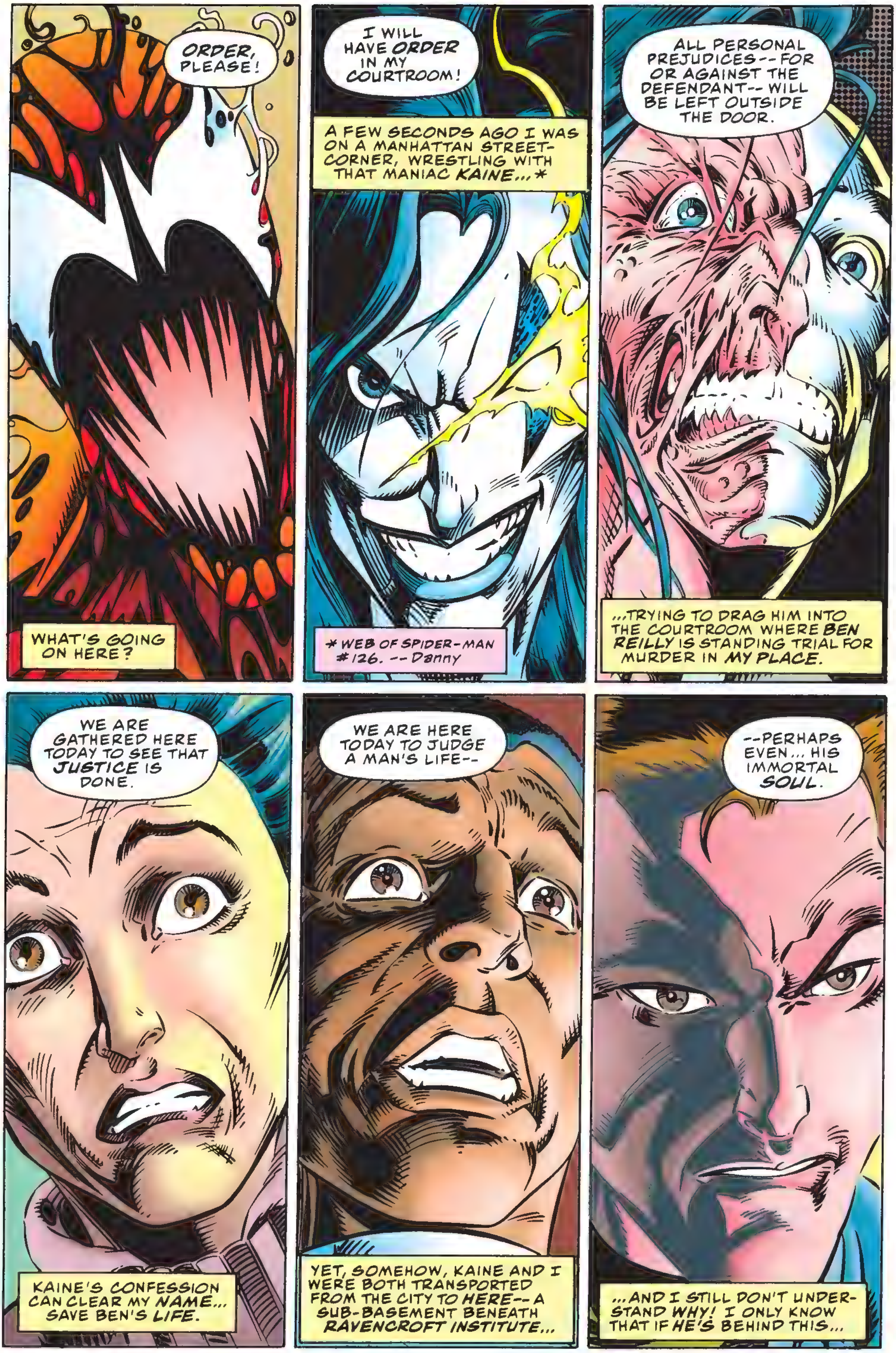
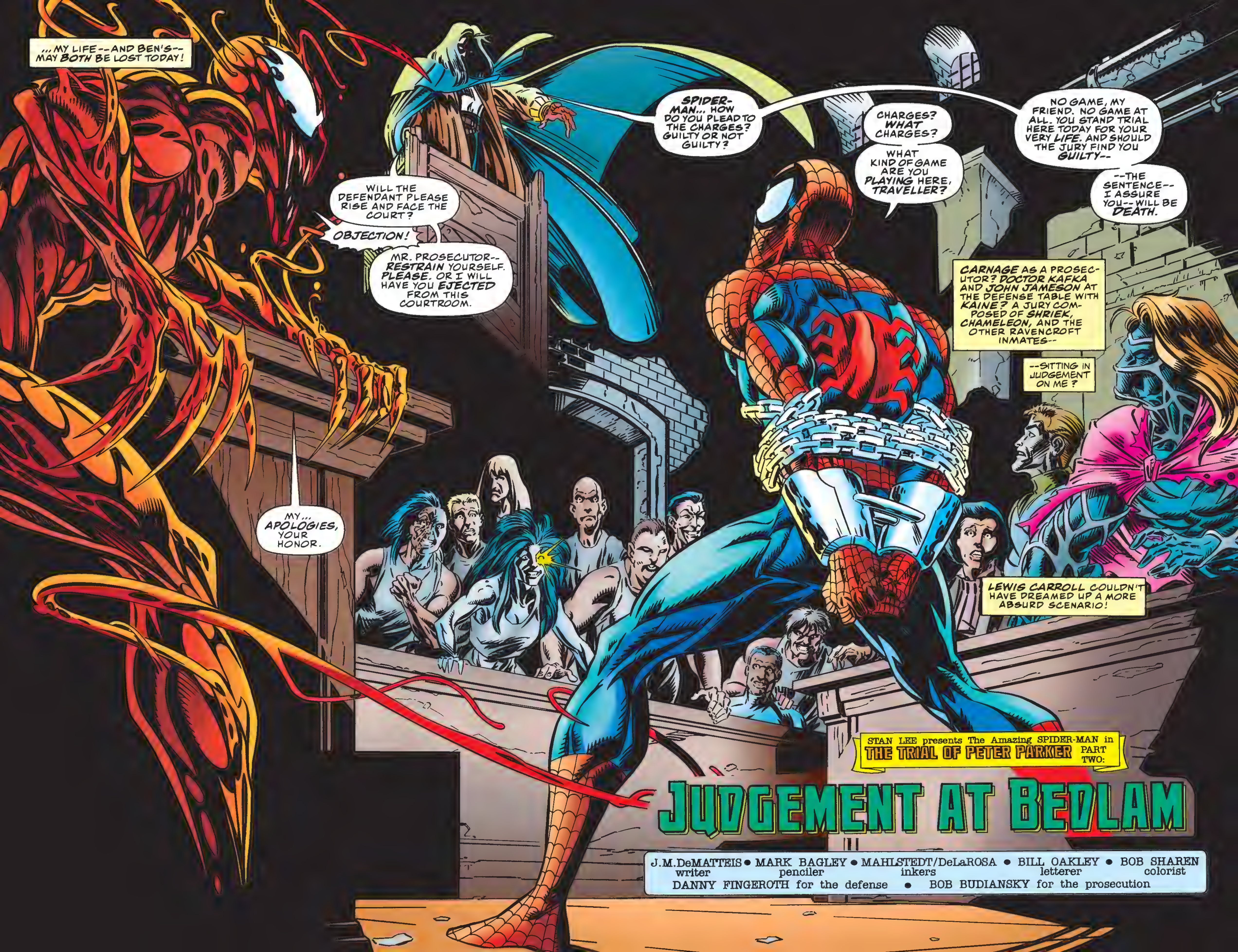
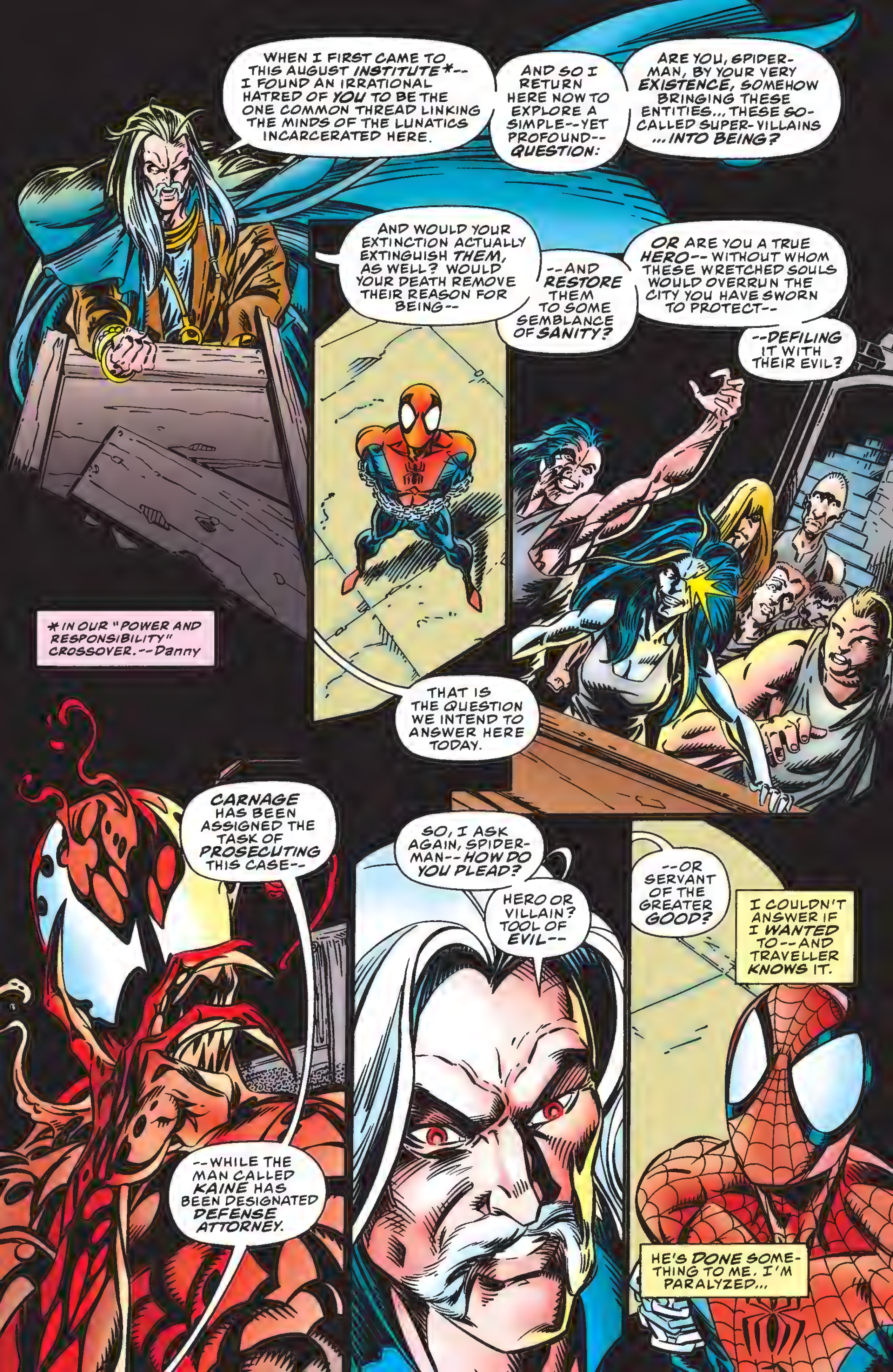
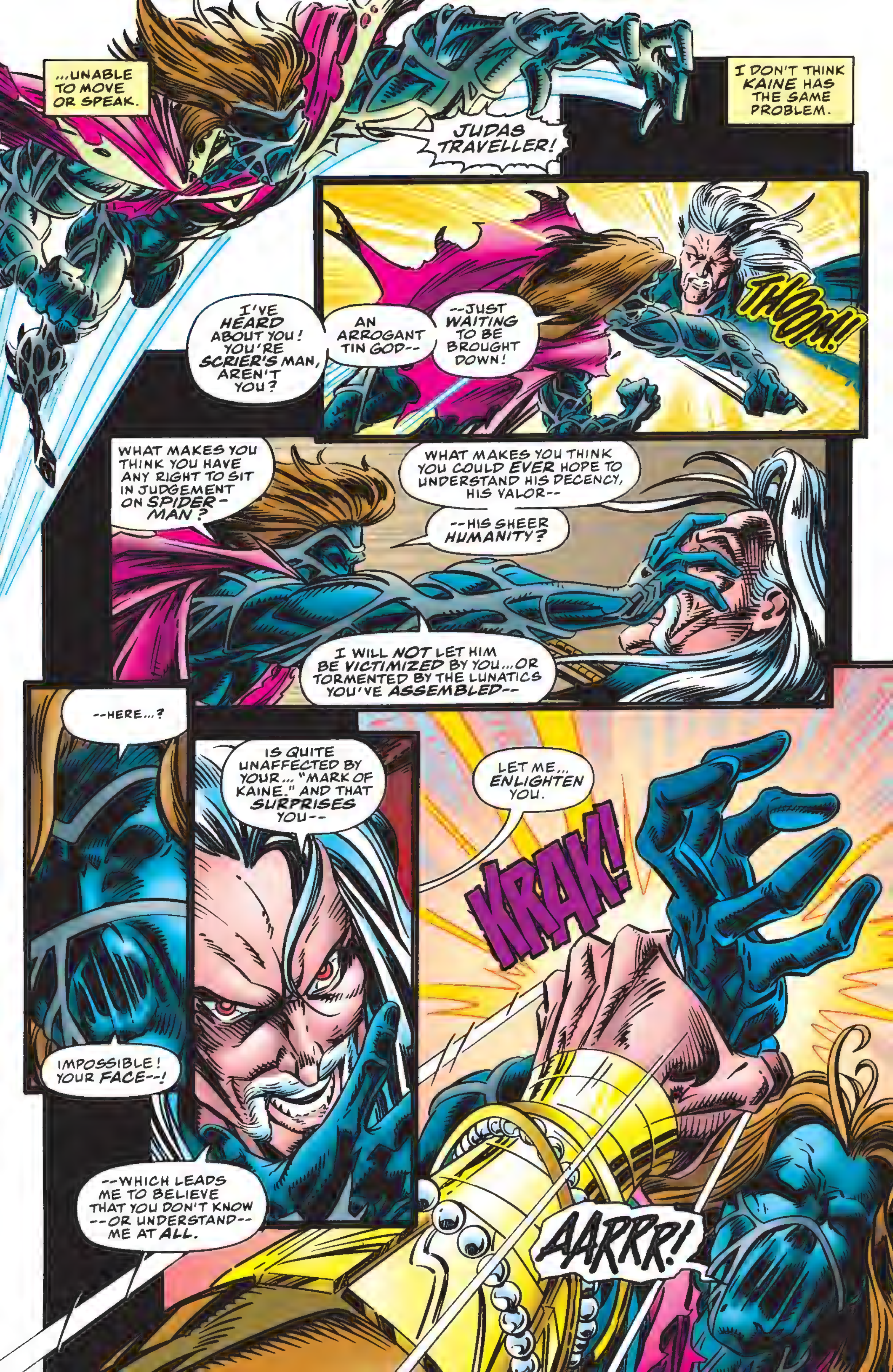
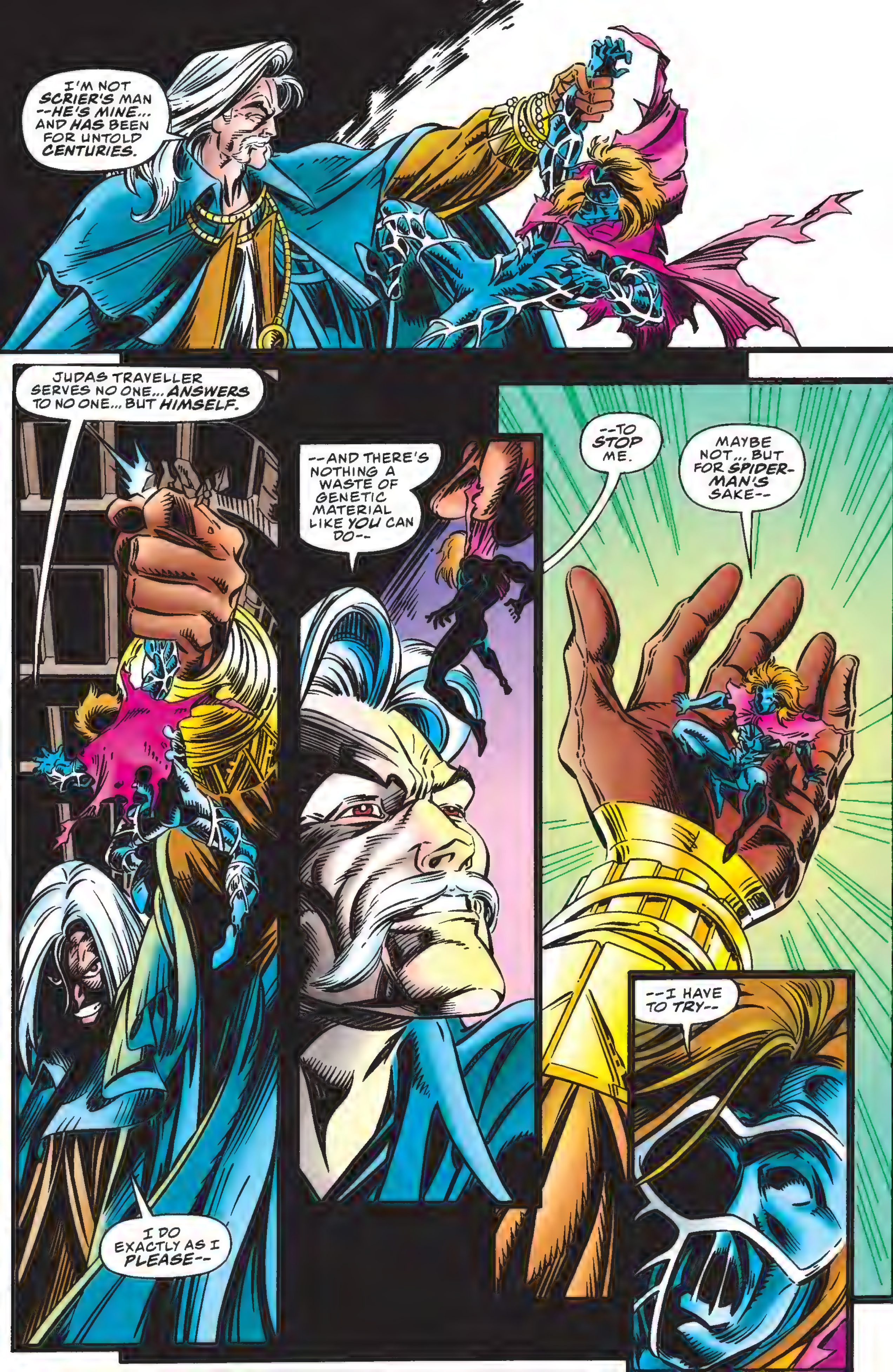
THE TRIAL OF PETER PARKER Part 2 of Four

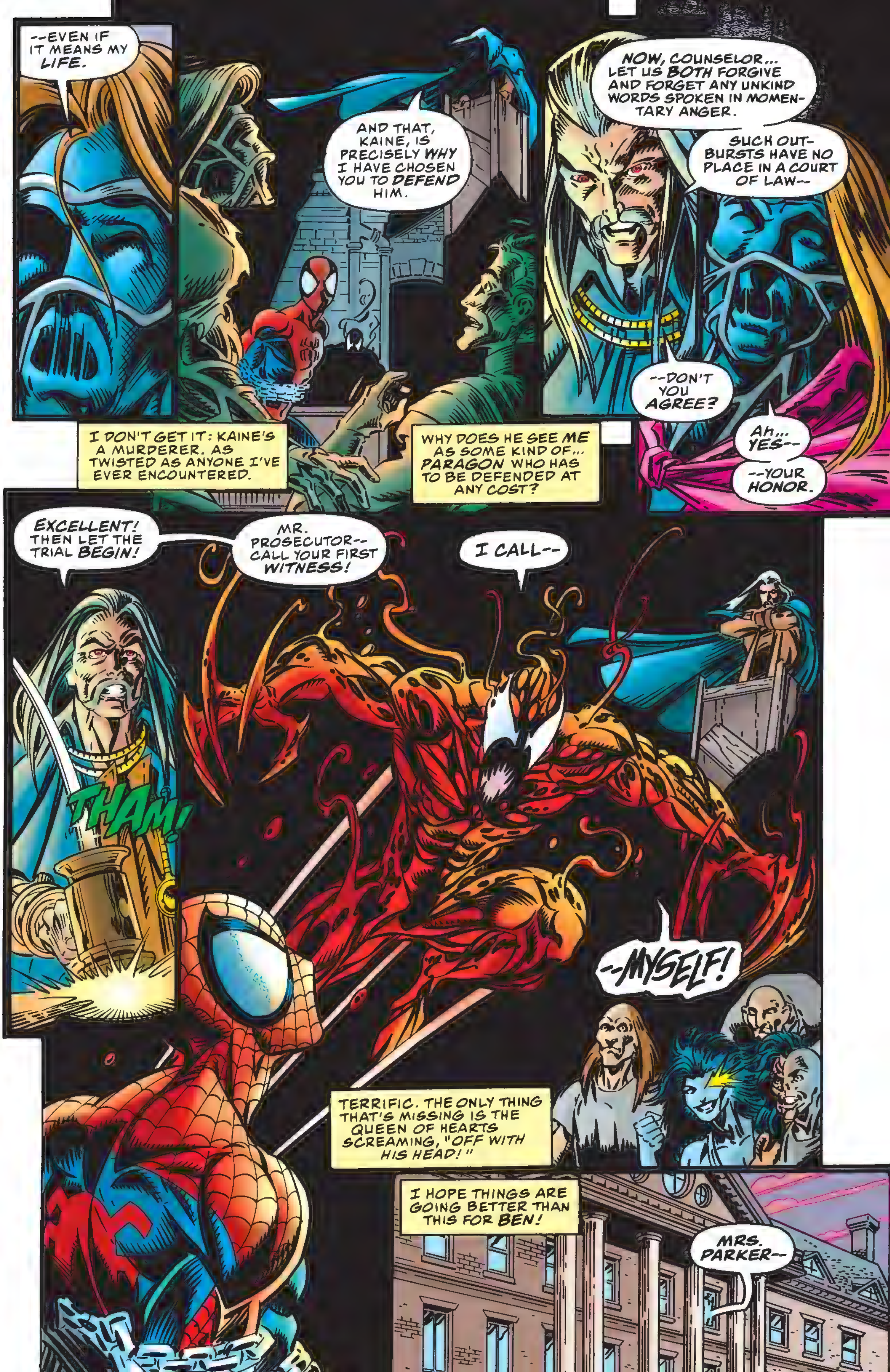

ORDER, PLEASE!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
I WILL HAVE ORDER IN MY COURTROOM!
A FEW SECONDS AGO I WAS ON A MANHATTAN STREET-CORNER, WRESTLING WITH THAT MANIAC KAINE...*
* WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #126. --Danny
ALL PERSONAL PREJUDICES--FOR OR AGAINST THE DEFENDANT--WILL BE LEFT OUTSIDE THE DOOR.
...TRYING TO DRAG HIM INTO THE COURTROOM WHERE BEN REILLY IS STANDING TRIAL FOR MURDER IN MY PLACE.
WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY TO SEE THAT JUSTICE IS DONE.
KAINE'S CONFESSION CAN CLEAR MY NAME... SAVE BEN'S LIFE.
WE ARE HERE TODAY TO JUDGE A MAN'S LIFE--
YET, SOMEHOW, KAINE AND I WERE BOTH TRANSPORTED FROM THE CITY TO HERE-- A SUB-BASEMENT BENEATH RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE...
--PERHAPS EVEN... HIS IMMORTAL SOUL.
...AND I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY! I ONLY KNOW THAT IF HE'S BEHIND THIS...

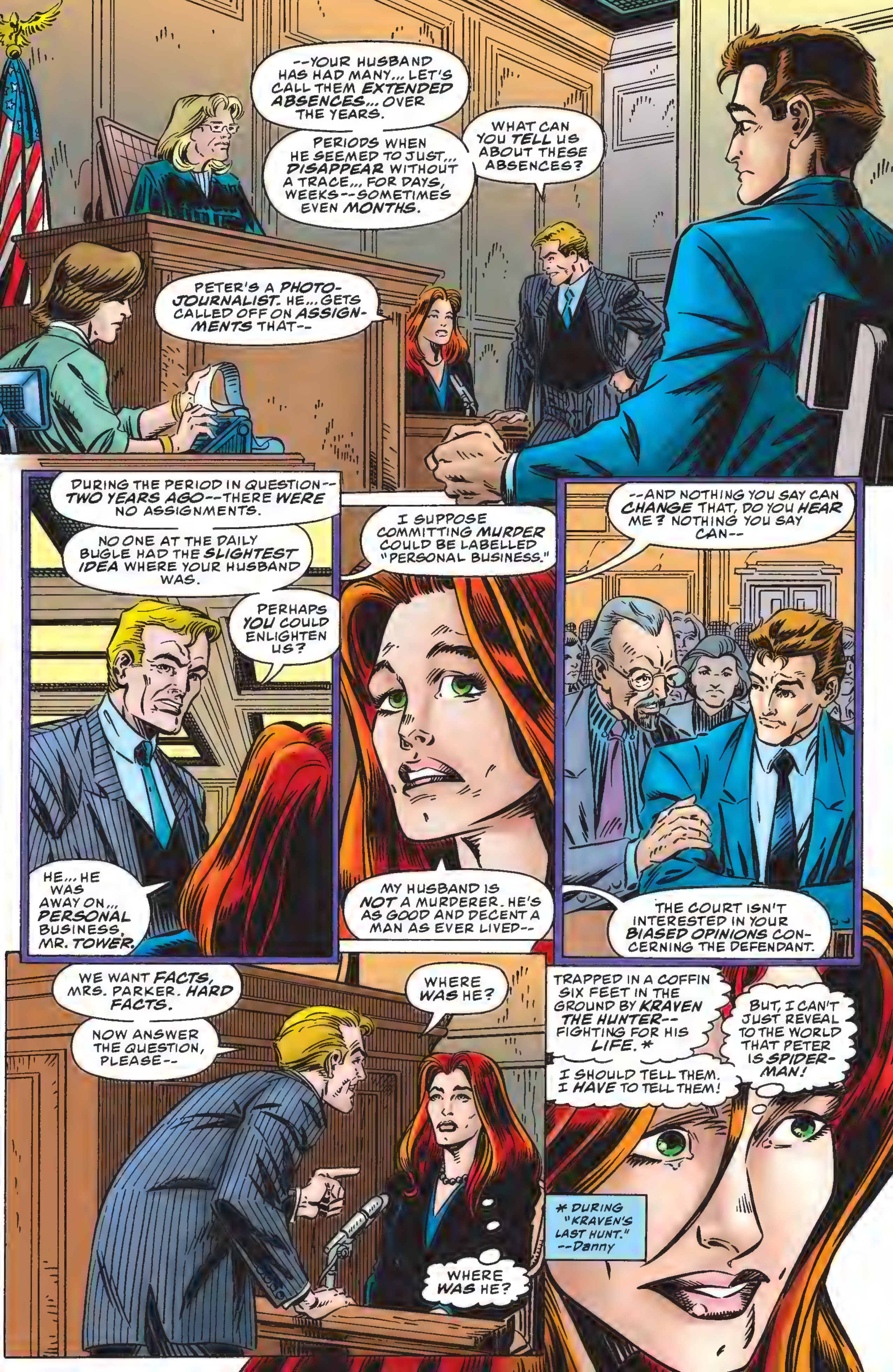

...MY LIFE--AND BEN'S--MAY *BOTH* BE LOST TODAY!
SPIDER-MAN... HOW DO YOU PLEAD TO THE CHARGES? GUILTY OR NOT GUILTY?
CHARGES? *WHAT* CHARGES?
WHAT KIND OF GAME ARE YOU *PLAYING* HERE, *TRAVELLER?*
NO GAME, MY FRIEND. NO GAME AT ALL. YOU STAND TRIAL HERE TODAY FOR YOUR VERY *LIFE*. AND SHOULD THE JURY FIND YOU *GUILTY*--
--THE SENTENCE--I ASSURE YOU--WILL BE *DEATH*.
WILL THE DEFENDANT PLEASE RISE AND FACE THE COURT?
OBJECTION!
MR. PROSECUTOR--*RESTRAIN* YOURSELF. *PLEASE.* OR I WILL HAVE YOU *EJECTED* FROM THIS COURTROOM.
MY... *APOLOGIES*, YOUR HONOR.
CARNAGE AS A PROSECUTOR? *DOCTOR KAFKA* AND *JOHN JAMESON* AT THE DEFENSE TABLE WITH *KAINE?* A JURY COMPOSED OF *SHRIEK, CHAMELEON*, AND THE OTHER RAVENCROFT INMATES--
--SITTING IN JUDGEMENT ON ME?
LEWIS CARROLL COULDN'T HAVE DREAMED UP A MORE ABSURD SCENARIO!
STAN LEE presents The Amazing SPIDER-MAN in THE TRIAL OF PETER PARKER PART TWO:
JUDGEMENT AT BEDLAM
J.M.DeMATTEIS writer • MARK BAGLEY penciler • MAHLSTEDT/DeLaROSA inkers • BILL OAKLEY letterer • BOB SHAREN colorist
DANNY FINGEROTH for the defense • BOB BUDIANSKY for the prosecution

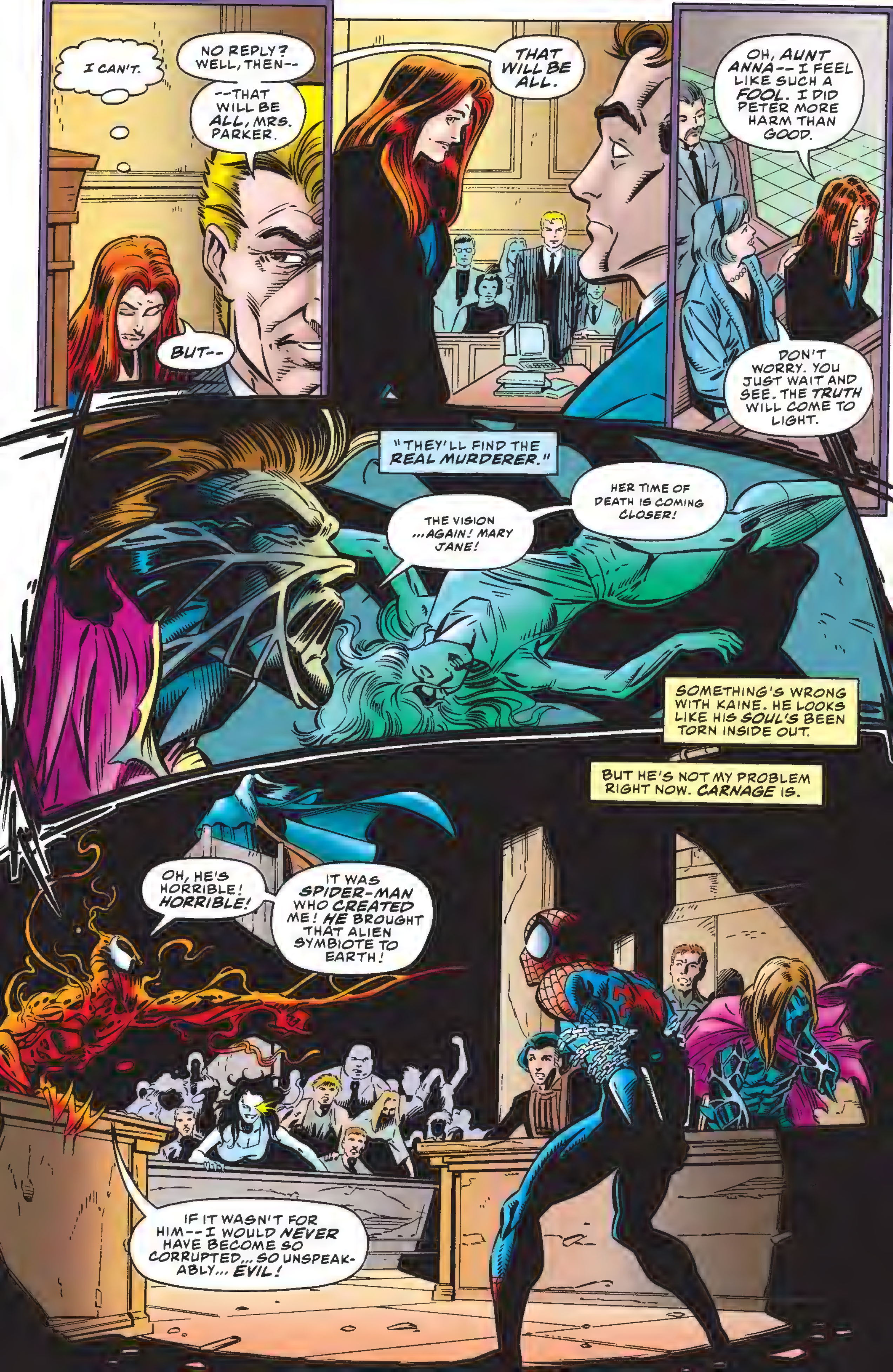

WHEN I FIRST CAME TO THIS AUGUST *INSTITUTE**-- I FOUND AN IRRATIONAL HATRED OF *YOU* TO BE THE ONE COMMON THREAD LINKING THE MINDS OF THE LUNATICS INCARCERATED HERE.
AND SO I RETURN HERE NOW TO EXPLORE A SIMPLE--YET PROFOUND-- *QUESTION:*
ARE YOU, SPIDER-MAN, BY YOUR VERY *EXISTENCE,* SOMEHOW BRINGING THESE ENTITIES... THESE SO-CALLED SUPER-VILLAINS *...INTO BEING?*
AND WOULD YOUR EXTINCTION ACTUALLY EXTINGUISH *THEM,* AS WELL? WOULD YOUR DEATH REMOVE THEIR REASON FOR BEING--
--AND *RESTORE* THEM TO SOME SEMBLANCE OF *SANITY?*
OR ARE YOU A TRUE *HERO*-- WITHOUT WHOM THESE WRETCHED SOULS WOULD OVERRUN THE CITY YOU HAVE SWORN TO PROTECT--
--DEFILING IT WITH THEIR EVIL?
*IN OUR "POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY" CROSSOVER.--Danny
THAT IS THE QUESTION WE INTEND TO ANSWER HERE TODAY.
CARNAGE HAS BEEN ASSIGNED THE TASK OF *PROSECUTING* THIS CASE--
--WHILE THE MAN CALLED *KAINE* HAS BEEN DESIGNATED *DEFENSE ATTORNEY.*
SO, I ASK AGAIN, SPIDER-MAN-- *HOW DO YOU PLEAD?*
HERO OR VILLAIN? TOOL OF *EVIL*--
--OR SERVANT OF THE GREATER *GOOD?*
I COULDN'T ANSWER IF I *WANTED* TO--AND TRAVELLER *KNOWS* IT.
HE'S *DONE* SOMETHING TO ME. I'M PARALYZED...

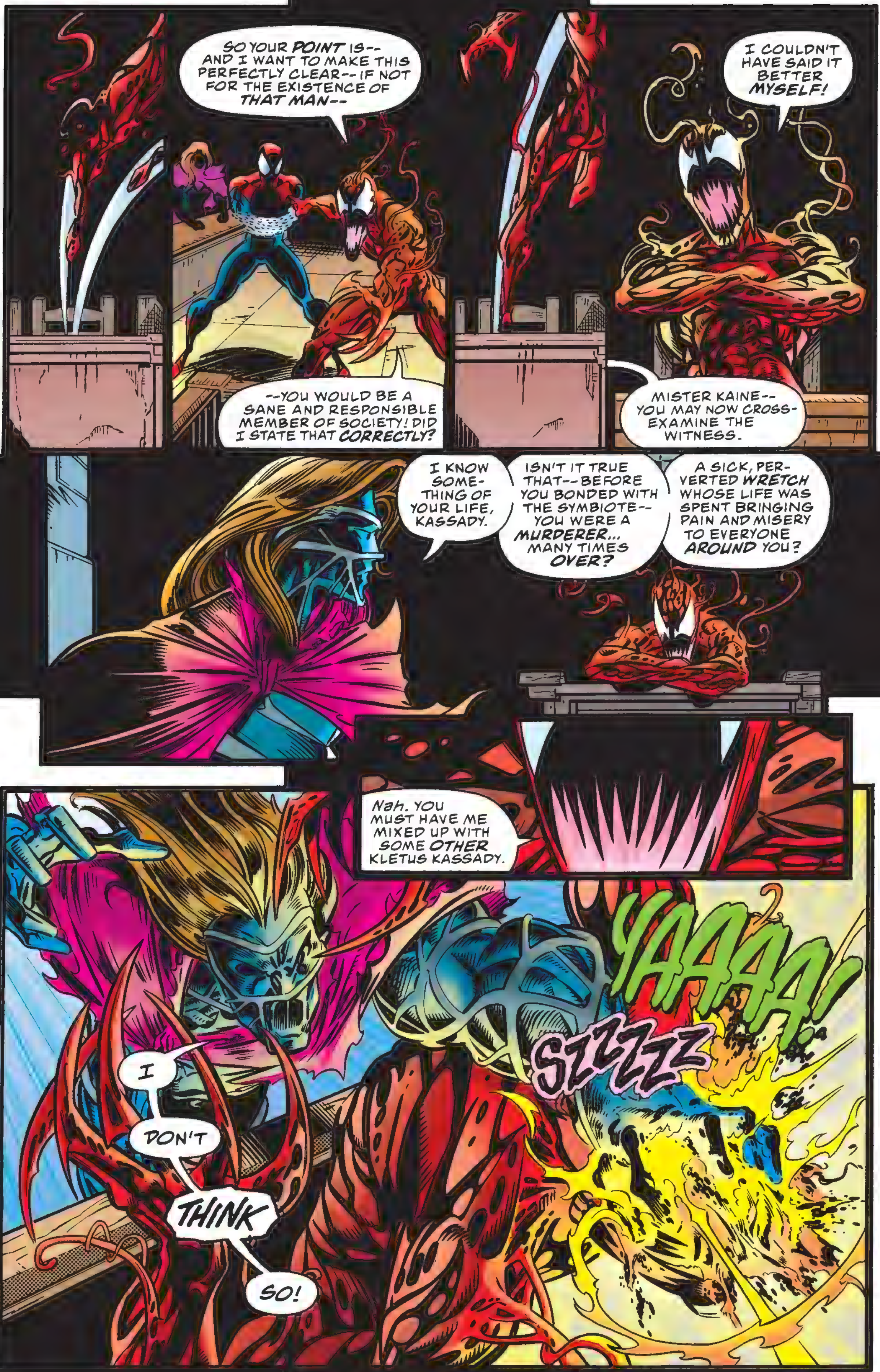

...UNABLE TO MOVE OR SPEAK.
I DON'T THINK KAINE HAS THE SAME PROBLEM.
JUDAS TRAVELLER!
I'VE HEARD ABOUT YOU! YOU'RE SCRIER'S MAN, AREN'T YOU?
AN ARROGANT TIN GOD--
--JUST WAITING TO BE BROUGHT DOWN!
THOOM!
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU HAVE ANY RIGHT TO SIT IN JUDGEMENT ON SPIDER-MAN?
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU COULD EVER HOPE TO UNDERSTAND HIS DECENCY, HIS VALOR--
--HIS SHEER HUMANITY?
I WILL NOT LET HIM BE VICTIMIZED BY YOU...OR TORMENTED BY THE LUNATICS YOU'VE ASSEMBLED--
--HERE...?
IS QUITE UNAFFECTED BY YOUR... "MARK OF KAINE." AND THAT SURPRISES YOU--
IMPOSSIBLE! YOUR FACE--!
--WHICH LEADS ME TO BELIEVE THAT YOU DON'T KNOW --OR UNDERSTAND-- ME AT ALL.
LET ME... ENLIGHTEN YOU.
KRAK!
AARRR!

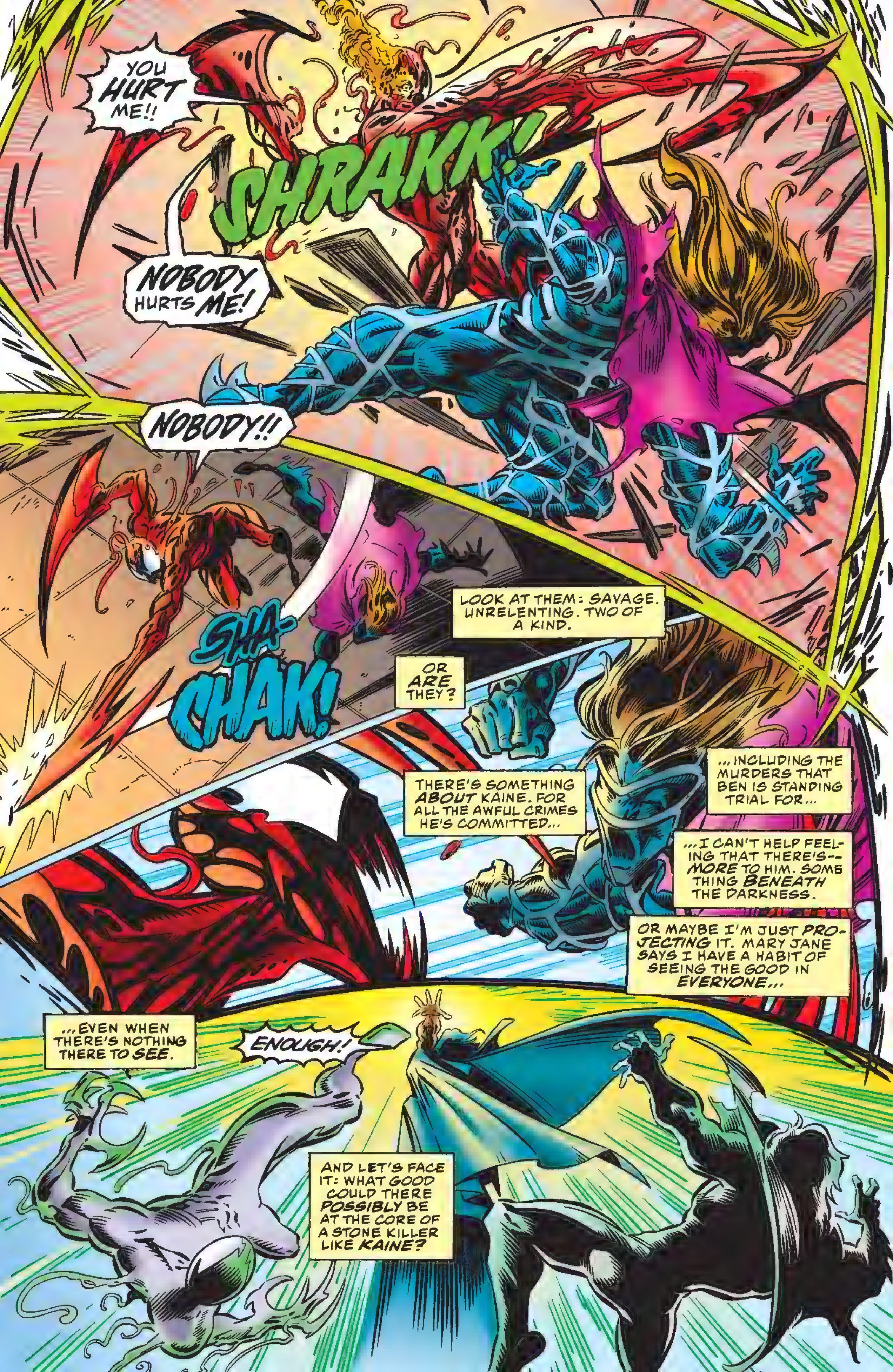

I'M NOT *SCRIER'S* MAN --*HE'S MINE*... AND *HAS* BEEN FOR UNTOLD *CENTURIES.*
JUDAS TRAVELLER SERVES NO ONE... *ANSWERS* TO NO ONE... BUT *HIMSELF.*
I DO EXACTLY AS I *PLEASE*--
--AND THERE'S NOTHING A WASTE OF GENETIC MATERIAL LIKE *YOU* CAN DO--
--TO *STOP* ME.
MAYBE NOT... BUT FOR *SPIDER-MAN'S* SAKE--
--I HAVE TO *TRY*--

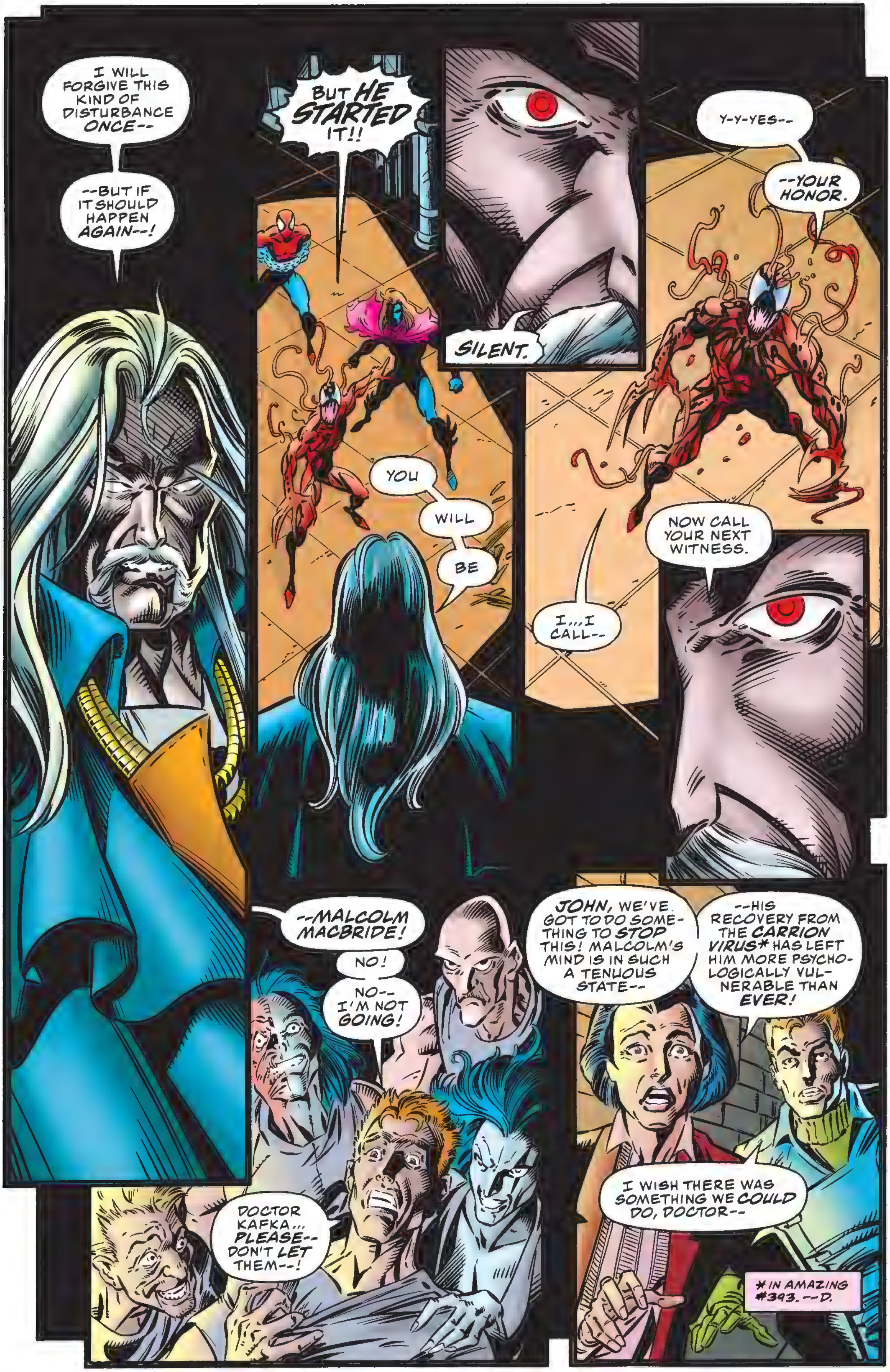

--EVEN IF IT MEANS MY LIFE.
AND THAT, KAINE, IS PRECISELY *WHY* I HAVE CHOSEN YOU TO *DEFEND* HIM.
I DON'T GET IT: KAINE'S A MURDERER. AS TWISTED AS ANYONE I'VE EVER ENCOUNTERED.
WHY DOES HE SEE *ME* AS SOME KIND OF... *PARAGON* WHO HAS TO BE DEFENDED AT ANY COST?
NOW, COUNSELOR... LET US *BOTH* FORGIVE AND FORGET ANY UNKIND WORDS SPOKEN IN MOMENTARY ANGER.
SUCH OUTBURSTS HAVE NO PLACE IN A COURT OF LAW--
--DON'T YOU AGREE?
Ah... YES--
--YOUR HONOR.
EXCELLENT! THEN LET THE TRIAL *BEGIN!*
MR. PROSECUTOR--CALL YOUR FIRST *WITNESS!*
THAM!
I CALL--
--MYSELF!
TERRIFIC. THE ONLY THING THAT'S MISSING IS THE QUEEN OF HEARTS SCREAMING, *"OFF WITH HIS HEAD!"*
I HOPE THINGS ARE GOING BETTER THAN THIS FOR *BEN!*
MRS. PARKER--

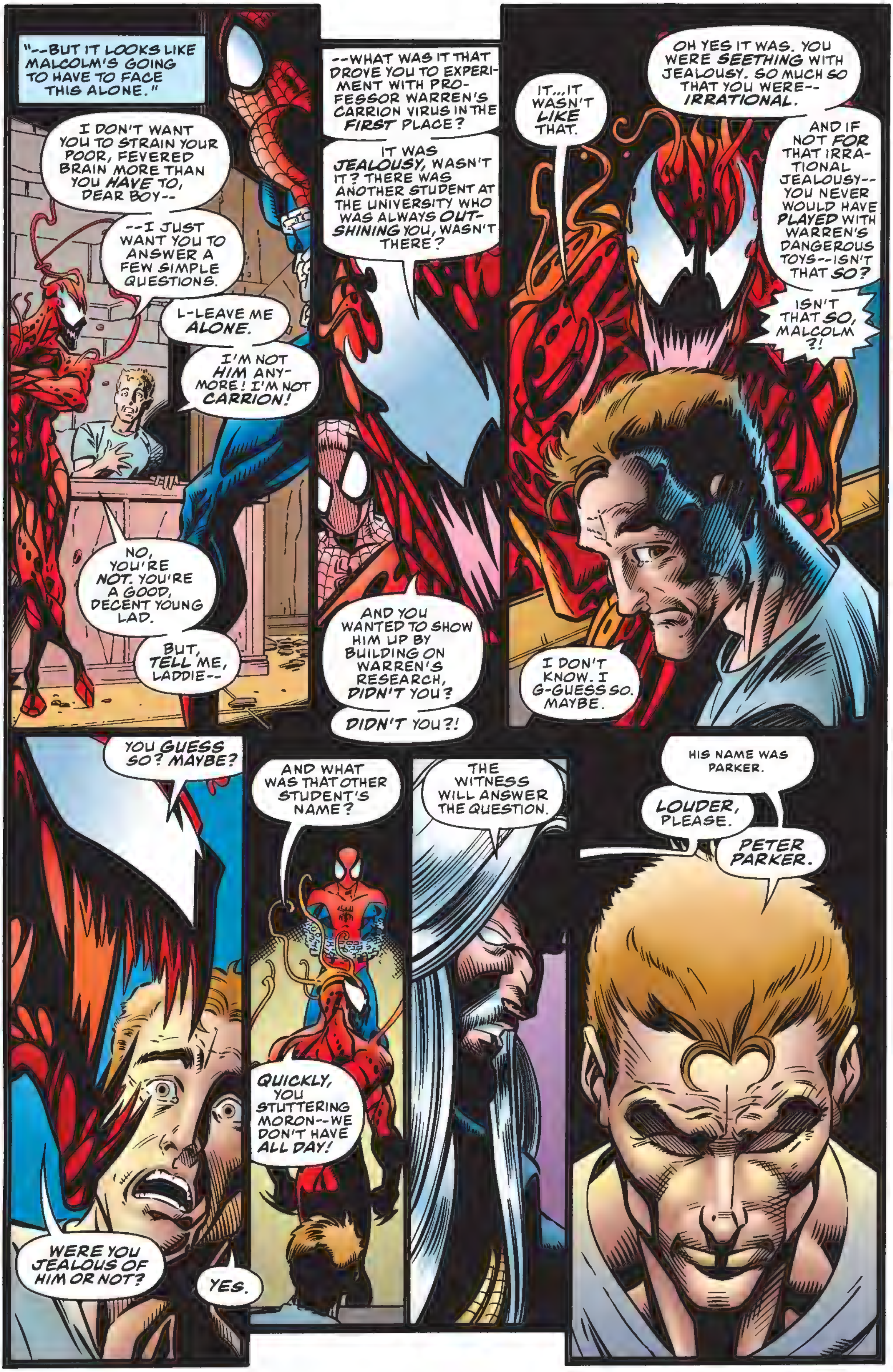

--YOUR HUSBAND HAS HAD MANY... LET'S CALL THEM EXTENDED ABSENCES... OVER THE YEARS.
PERIODS WHEN HE SEEMED TO JUST... DISAPPEAR WITHOUT A TRACE... FOR DAYS, WEEKS--SOMETIMES EVEN MONTHS.
WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THESE ABSENCES?
PETER'S A PHOTOJOURNALIST. HE... GETS CALLED OFF ON ASSIGNMENTS THAT--
DURING THE PERIOD IN QUESTION--TWO YEARS AGO--THERE WERE NO ASSIGNMENTS.
NO ONE AT THE DAILY BUGLE HAD THE SLIGHTEST IDEA WHERE YOUR HUSBAND WAS.
PERHAPS YOU COULD ENLIGHTEN US?
HE... HE WAS AWAY ON... PERSONAL BUSINESS, MR. TOWER.
I SUPPOSE COMMITTING MURDER COULD BE LABELLED "PERSONAL BUSINESS."
MY HUSBAND IS NOT A MURDERER. HE'S AS GOOD AND DECENT A MAN AS EVER LIVED--
--AND NOTHING YOU SAY CAN CHANGE THAT, DO YOU HEAR ME? NOTHING YOU SAY CAN--
THE COURT ISN'T INTERESTED IN YOUR BIASED OPINIONS CONCERNING THE DEFENDANT.
WE WANT FACTS, MRS. PARKER. HARD FACTS.
NOW ANSWER THE QUESTION, PLEASE--
WHERE WAS HE?
WHERE WAS HE?
TRAPPED IN A COFFIN SIX FEET IN THE GROUND BY KRAVEN THE HUNTER--FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE.*
I SHOULD TELL THEM. I HAVE TO TELL THEM!
BUT, I CAN'T JUST REVEAL TO THE WORLD THAT PETER IS SPIDER-MAN!
* DURING "KRAVEN'S LAST HUNT." --Danny

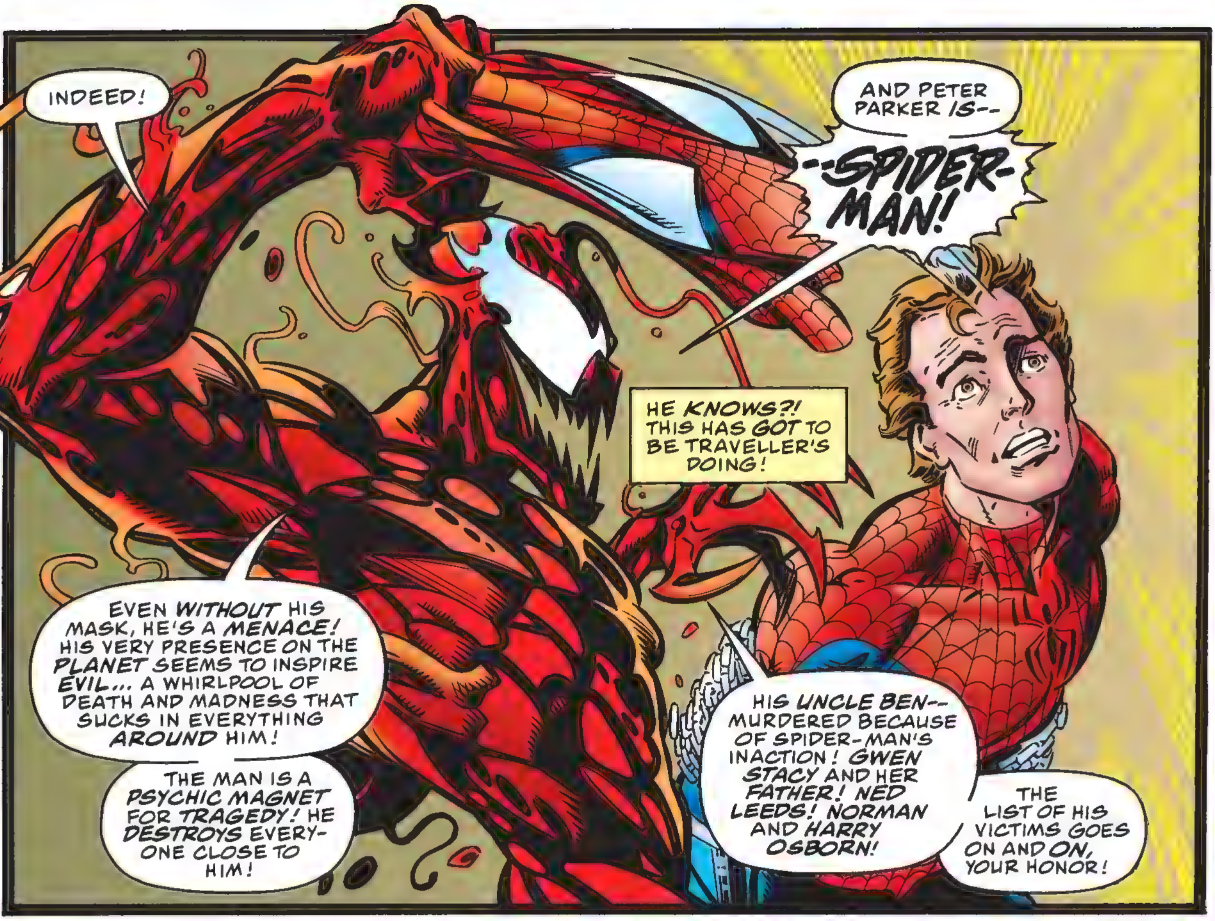
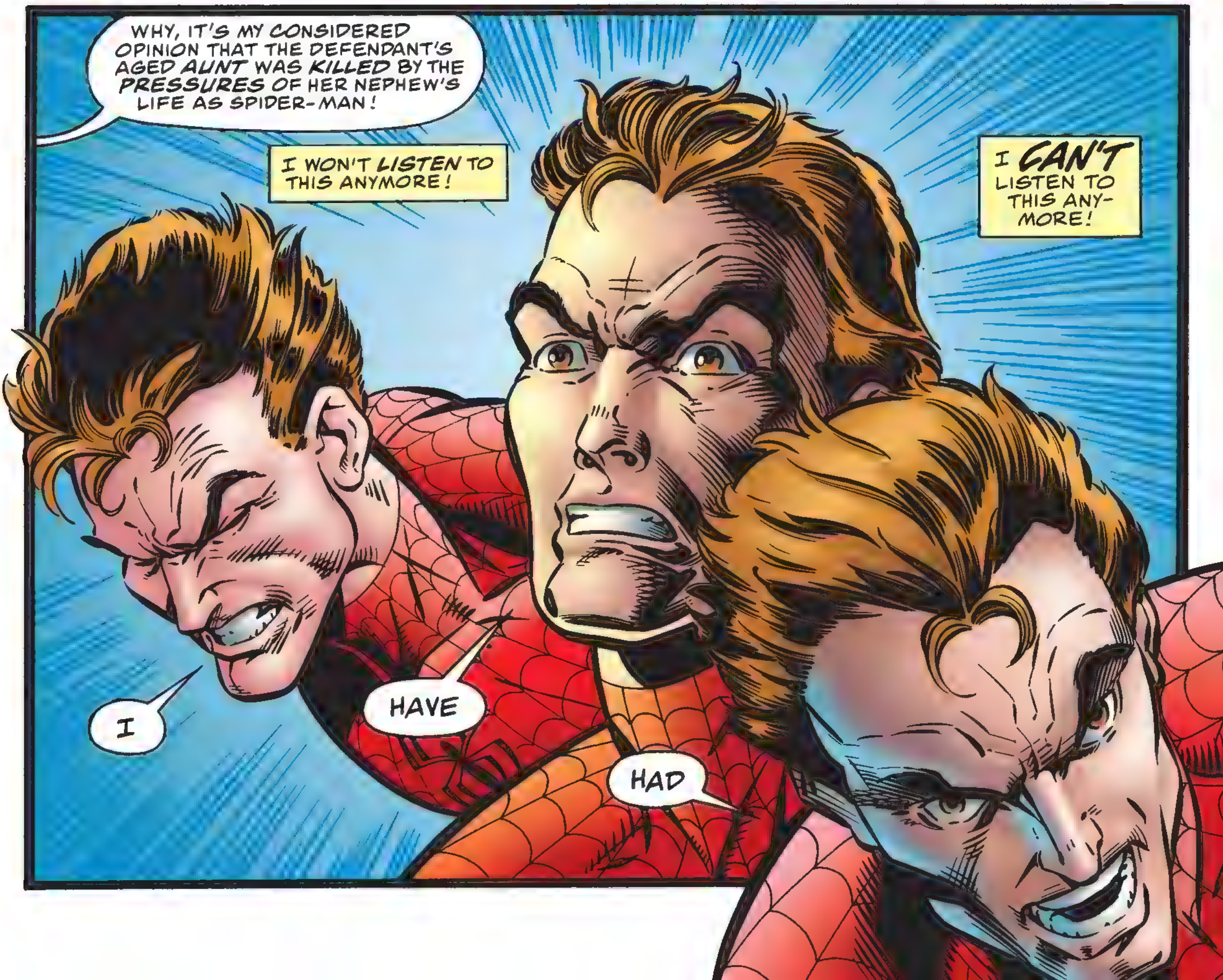

I CAN'T.
NO REPLY? WELL, THEN--
--THAT WILL BE ALL, MRS. PARKER.
BUT--
THAT WILL BE ALL.
OH, AUNT ANNA-- I FEEL LIKE SUCH A FOOL. I DID PETER MORE HARM THAN GOOD.
DON'T WORRY. YOU JUST WAIT AND SEE. THE TRUTH WILL COME TO LIGHT.
"THEY'LL FIND THE REAL MURDERER."
THE VISION ...AGAIN! MARY JANE!
HER TIME OF DEATH IS COMING CLOSER!
SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH KAINE. HE LOOKS LIKE HIS SOUL'S BEEN TORN INSIDE OUT.
BUT HE'S NOT MY PROBLEM RIGHT NOW. CARNAGE IS.
OH, HE'S HORRIBLE! HORRIBLE!
IT WAS SPIDER-MAN WHO CREATED ME! HE BROUGHT THAT ALIEN SYMBIOTE TO EARTH!
IF IT WASN'T FOR HIM--I WOULD NEVER HAVE BECOME SO CORRUPTED... SO UNSPEAKABLY... EVIL!

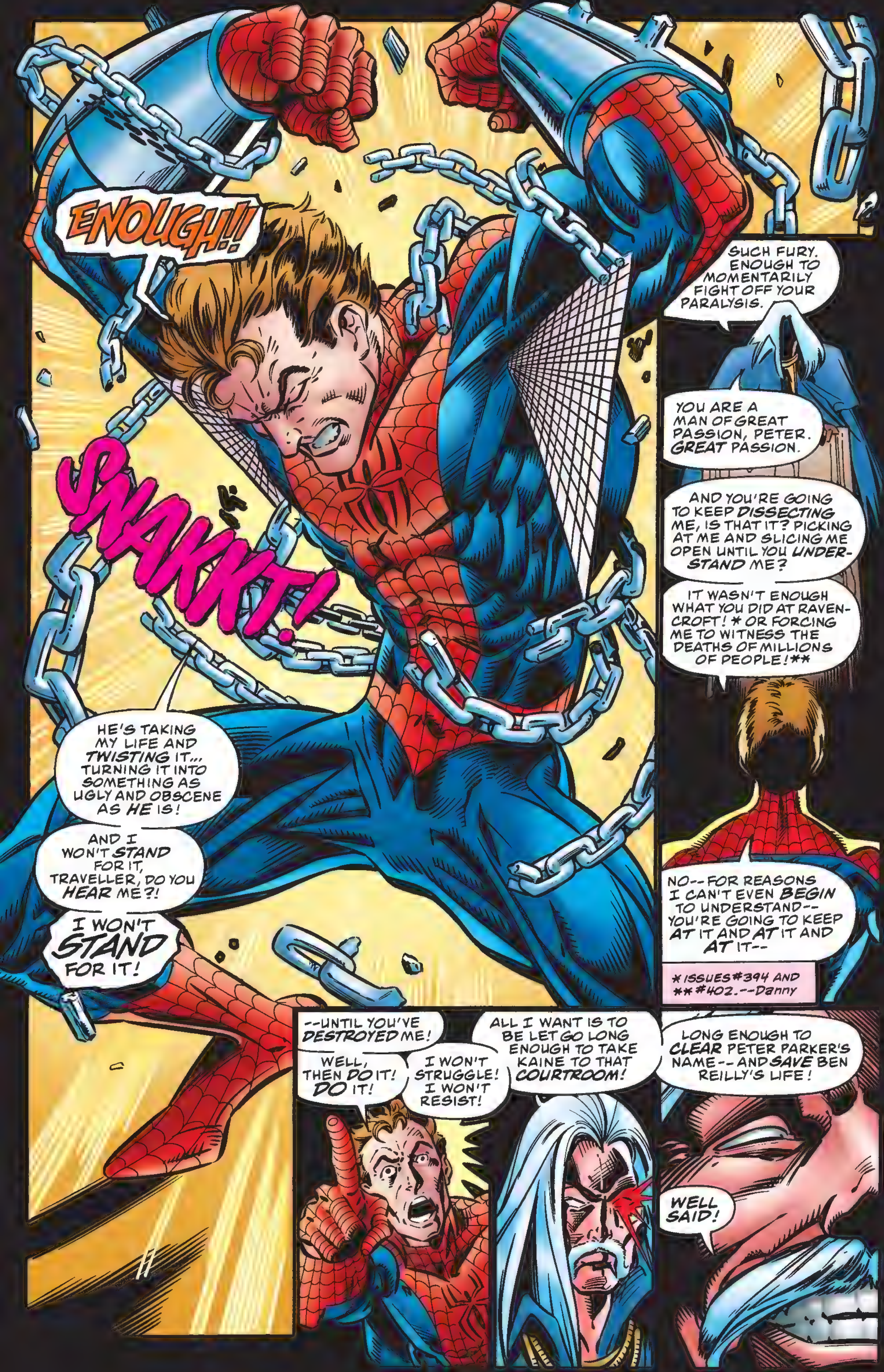

SO YOUR *POINT* IS-- AND I WANT TO MAKE THIS PERFECTLY CLEAR-- IF NOT FOR THE EXISTENCE OF *THAT MAN*--
--YOU WOULD BE A SANE AND RESPONSIBLE MEMBER OF SOCIETY! DID I STATE THAT *CORRECTLY?*
I COULDN'T HAVE SAID IT BETTER *MYSELF!*
MISTER KAINE-- YOU MAY NOW CROSS-EXAMINE THE WITNESS.
I KNOW SOMETHING OF YOUR LIFE, KASSADY.
ISN'T IT TRUE THAT-- BEFORE YOU BONDED WITH THE SYMBIOTE-- YOU WERE A *MURDERER*... MANY TIMES *OVER?*
A SICK, PERVERTED *WRETCH* WHOSE LIFE WAS SPENT BRINGING PAIN AND MISERY TO EVERYONE *AROUND* YOU?
Nah. YOU MUST HAVE ME MIXED UP WITH SOME *OTHER* KLETUS KASSADY.
YAAAA!
SZZZZZ
I
DON'T
THINK
SO!

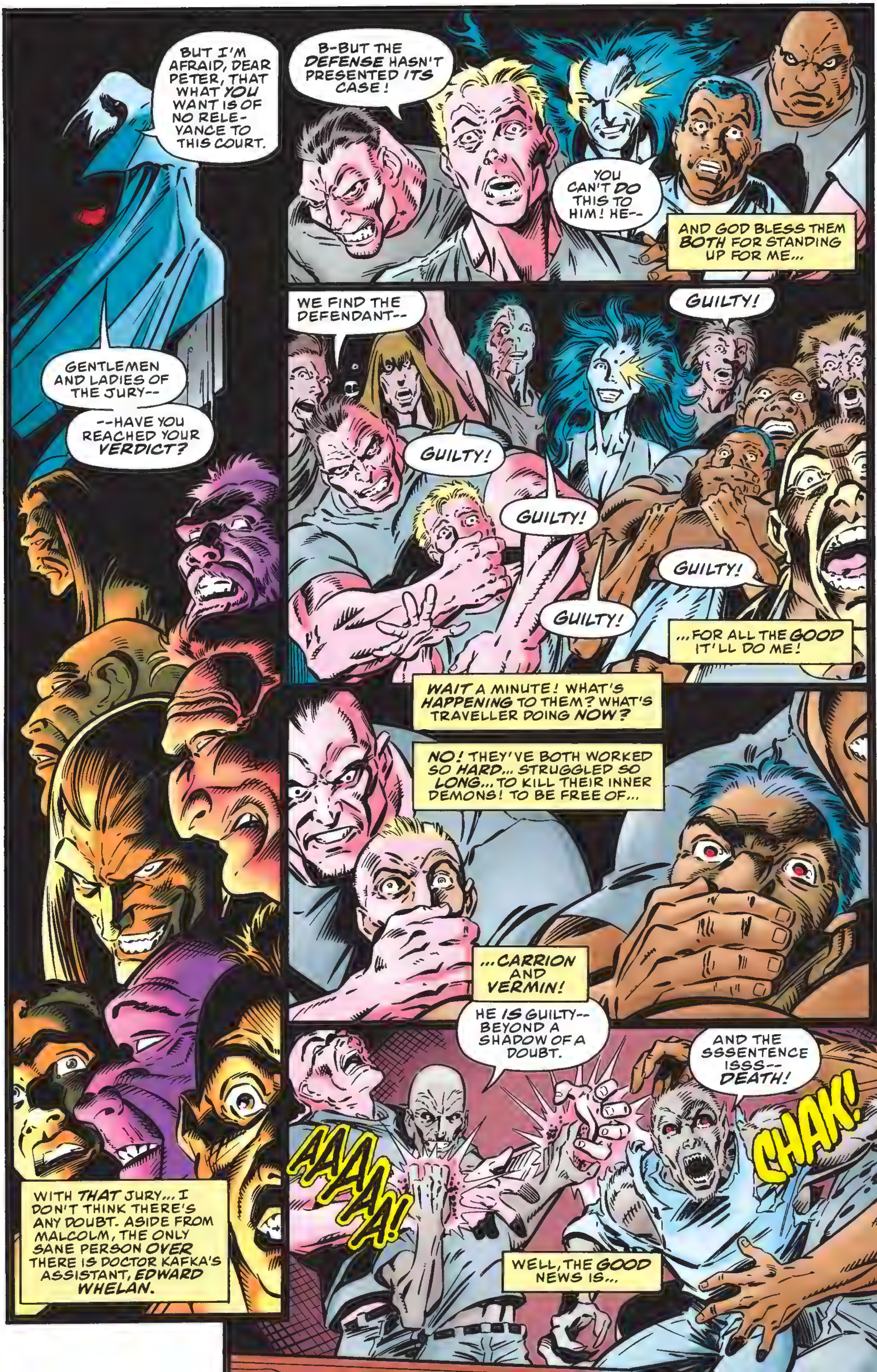

YOU *HURT* ME!!
SHRAKK!
NOBODY HURTS *ME!*
NOBODY!!
LOOK AT THEM: SAVAGE. UNRELENTING. TWO OF A KIND.
SHA-CHAK!
OR *ARE* THEY?
THERE'S SOMETHING *ABOUT* KAINE. FOR ALL THE AWFUL CRIMES HE'S COMMITTED...
...INCLUDING THE MURDERS THAT BEN IS STANDING TRIAL FOR...
...I CAN'T HELP FEELING THAT THERE'S--*MORE* TO HIM. SOMETHING *BENEATH* THE DARKNESS.
OR MAYBE I'M JUST *PROJECTING* IT. MARY JANE SAYS I HAVE A HABIT OF SEEING THE GOOD IN *EVERYONE*...
...EVEN WHEN THERE'S NOTHING THERE TO *SEE*.
ENOUGH!
AND LET'S FACE IT: WHAT GOOD COULD THERE *POSSIBLY* BE AT THE CORE OF A STONE KILLER LIKE *KAINE?*

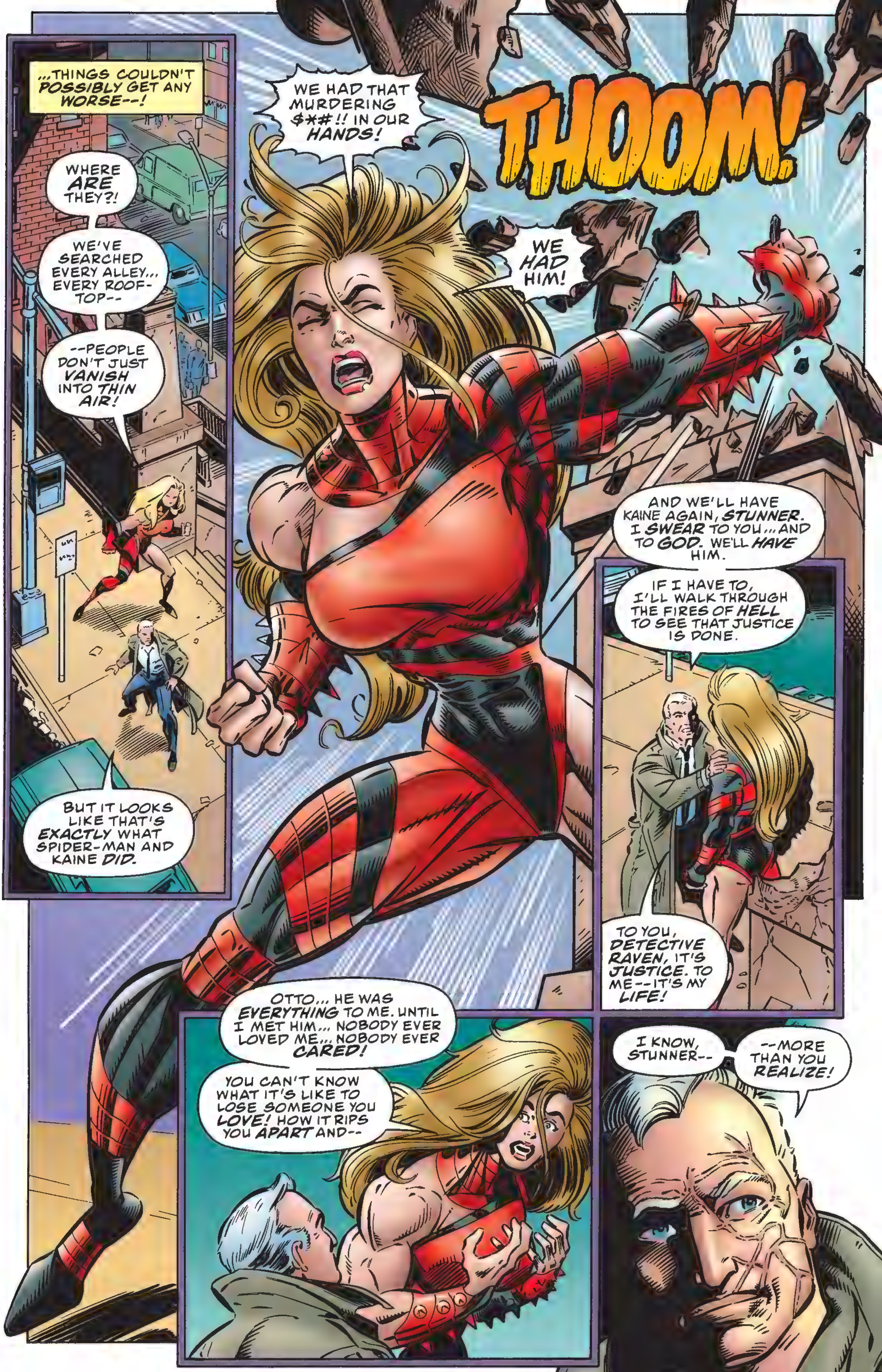

I WILL FORGIVE THIS KIND OF DISTURBANCE *ONCE*--
--BUT IF IT SHOULD HAPPEN *AGAIN*--!
BUT *HE STARTED* IT!!
YOU WILL BE
SILENT.
Y-Y-YES--
--YOUR HONOR.
NOW CALL YOUR NEXT WITNESS.
I...I CALL--
--MALCOLM MACBRIDE!
NO!
NO-- I'M NOT *GOING!*
DOCTOR KAFKA... *PLEASE*-- DON'T *LET* THEM--!
JOHN, WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING TO *STOP* THIS! MALCOLM'S MIND IS IN SUCH A TENUOUS STATE--
--HIS RECOVERY FROM THE *CARRION VIRUS** HAS LEFT HIM MORE PSYCHOLOGICALLY VULNERABLE THAN *EVER!*
I WISH THERE WAS SOMETHING WE *COULD* DO, DOCTOR--
*IN AMAZING #393. --D.

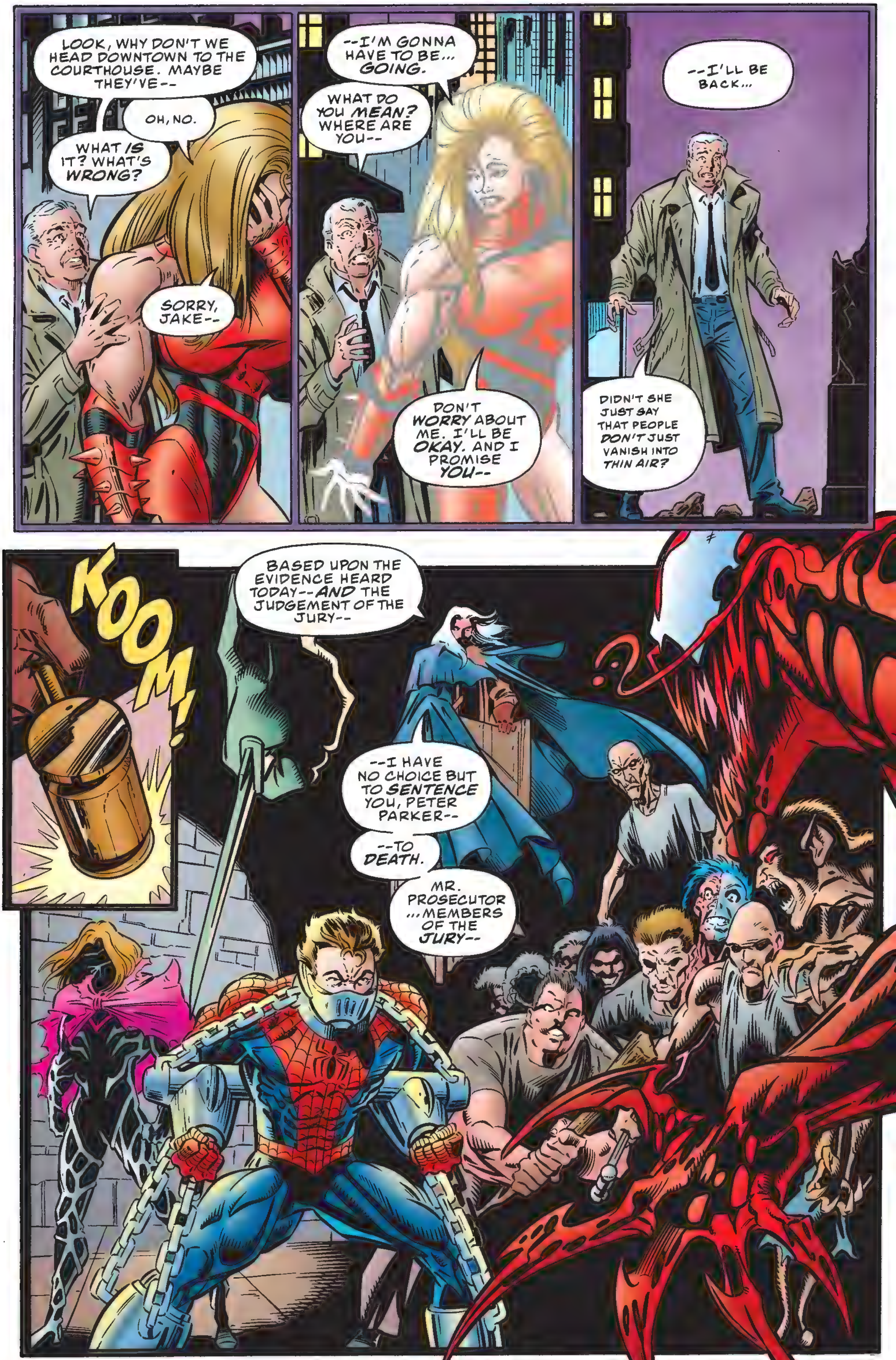

"--BUT IT LOOKS LIKE MALCOLM'S GOING TO HAVE TO FACE THIS ALONE."
I DON'T WANT YOU TO STRAIN YOUR POOR, FEVERED BRAIN MORE THAN YOU *HAVE* TO, DEAR BOY--
--I JUST WANT YOU TO ANSWER A FEW SIMPLE QUESTIONS.
L-LEAVE ME *ALONE.*
I'M NOT *HIM* ANYMORE! I'M NOT *CARRION!*
NO, YOU'RE *NOT.* YOU'RE A GOOD, DECENT YOUNG LAD.
BUT, *TELL* ME, LADDIE--
--WHAT WAS IT THAT DROVE YOU TO EXPERIMENT WITH PROFESSOR WARREN'S CARRION VIRUS IN THE *FIRST* PLACE?
IT WAS *JEALOUSY,* WASN'T IT? THERE WAS ANOTHER STUDENT AT THE UNIVERSITY WHO WAS ALWAYS *OUTSHINING* YOU, WASN'T THERE?
AND YOU WANTED TO SHOW HIM UP BY BUILDING ON WARREN'S RESEARCH, *DIDN'T* YOU?
DIDN'T YOU?!
IT...IT WASN'T *LIKE* THAT.
OH YES IT WAS. YOU WERE *SEETHING* WITH JEALOUSY. SO MUCH SO THAT YOU WERE-- *IRRATIONAL.*
AND IF NOT *FOR* THAT IRRATIONAL JEALOUSY-- YOU NEVER WOULD HAVE *PLAYED* WITH WARREN'S DANGEROUS TOYS--ISN'T THAT *SO?*
ISN'T THAT *SO,* MALCOLM?!
I DON'T KNOW. I G-GUESS SO. MAYBE.
YOU *GUESS* SO? *MAYBE?*
WERE YOU JEALOUS OF HIM OR NOT?
YES.
AND WHAT WAS THAT OTHER STUDENT'S NAME?
QUICKLY, YOU STUTTERING MORON--WE DON'T HAVE *ALL DAY!*
THE WITNESS WILL ANSWER THE QUESTION.
HIS NAME WAS PARKER.
LOUDER, PLEASE.
PETER PARKER.

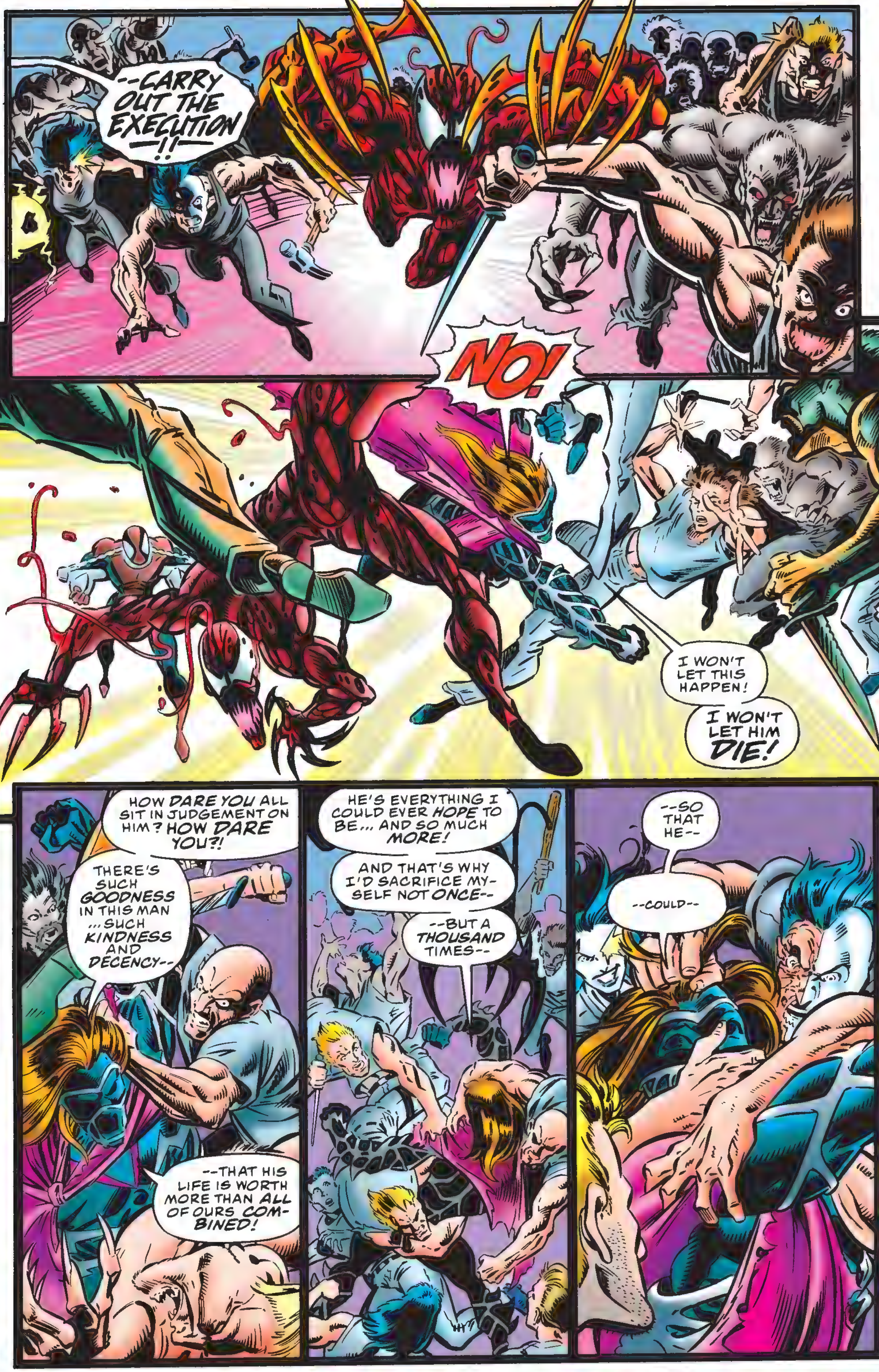

INDEED!
AND PETER PARKER IS--
--SPIDER-MAN!
HE KNOWS?! THIS HAS GOT TO BE TRAVELLER'S DOING!
EVEN WITHOUT HIS MASK, HE'S A MENACE! HIS VERY PRESENCE ON THE PLANET SEEMS TO INSPIRE EVIL... A WHIRLPOOL OF DEATH AND MADNESS THAT SUCKS IN EVERYTHING AROUND HIM!
THE MAN IS A PSYCHIC MAGNET FOR TRAGEDY! HE DESTROYS EVERYONE CLOSE TO HIM!
HIS UNCLE BEN--MURDERED BECAUSE OF SPIDER-MAN'S INACTION! GWEN STACY AND HER FATHER! NED LEEDS! NORMAN AND HARRY OSBORN!
THE LIST OF HIS VICTIMS GOES ON AND ON, YOUR HONOR!

WHY, IT'S MY CONSIDERED OPINION THAT THE DEFENDANT'S AGED AUNT WAS KILLED BY THE PRESSURES OF HER NEPHEW'S LIFE AS SPIDER-MAN!
I WON'T LISTEN TO THIS ANYMORE!
I CAN'T LISTEN TO THIS ANYMORE!
I
HAVE
HAD

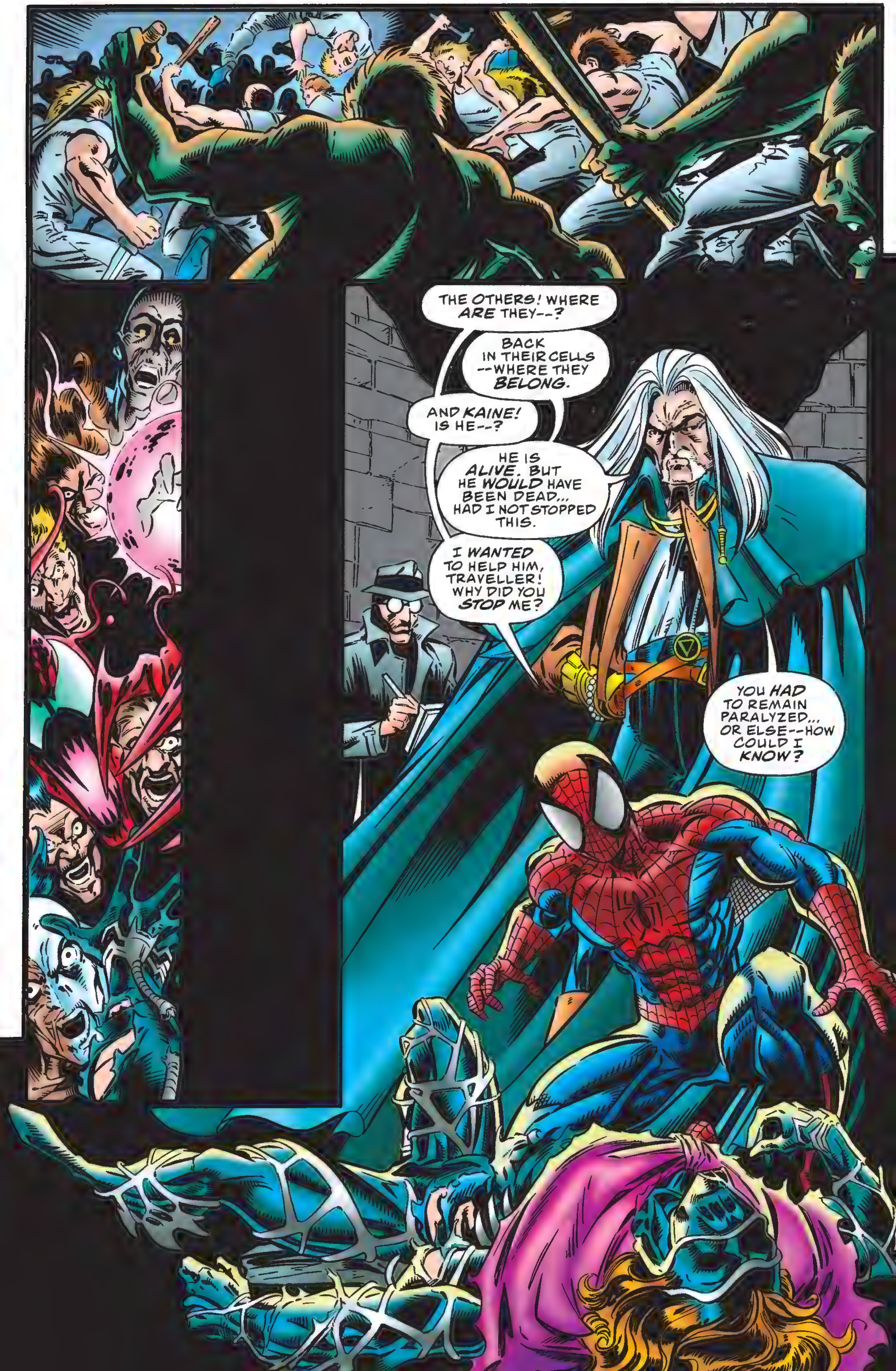

ENOUGH!!
SNAKKT!
HE'S TAKING MY LIFE AND TWISTING IT... TURNING IT INTO SOMETHING AS UGLY AND OBSCENE AS HE IS!
AND I WON'T STAND FOR IT, TRAVELLER, DO YOU HEAR ME?!
I WON'T STAND FOR IT!
SUCH FURY. ENOUGH TO MOMENTARILY FIGHT OFF YOUR PARALYSIS.
YOU ARE A MAN OF GREAT PASSION, PETER. GREAT PASSION.
AND YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP DISSECTING ME, IS THAT IT? PICKING AT ME AND SLICING ME OPEN UNTIL YOU UNDERSTAND ME?
IT WASN'T ENOUGH WHAT YOU DID AT RAVENCROFT! * OR FORCING ME TO WITNESS THE DEATHS OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE! **
NO-- FOR REASONS I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND-- YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP AT IT AND AT IT AND AT IT--
* ISSUES #394 AND ** #402. --Danny
--UNTIL YOU'VE DESTROYED ME!
WELL, THEN DO IT! DO IT!
I WON'T STRUGGLE! I WON'T RESIST!
ALL I WANT IS TO BE LET GO LONG ENOUGH TO TAKE KAINE TO THAT COURTROOM!
LONG ENOUGH TO CLEAR PETER PARKER'S NAME-- AND SAVE BEN REILLY'S LIFE!
WELL SAID!

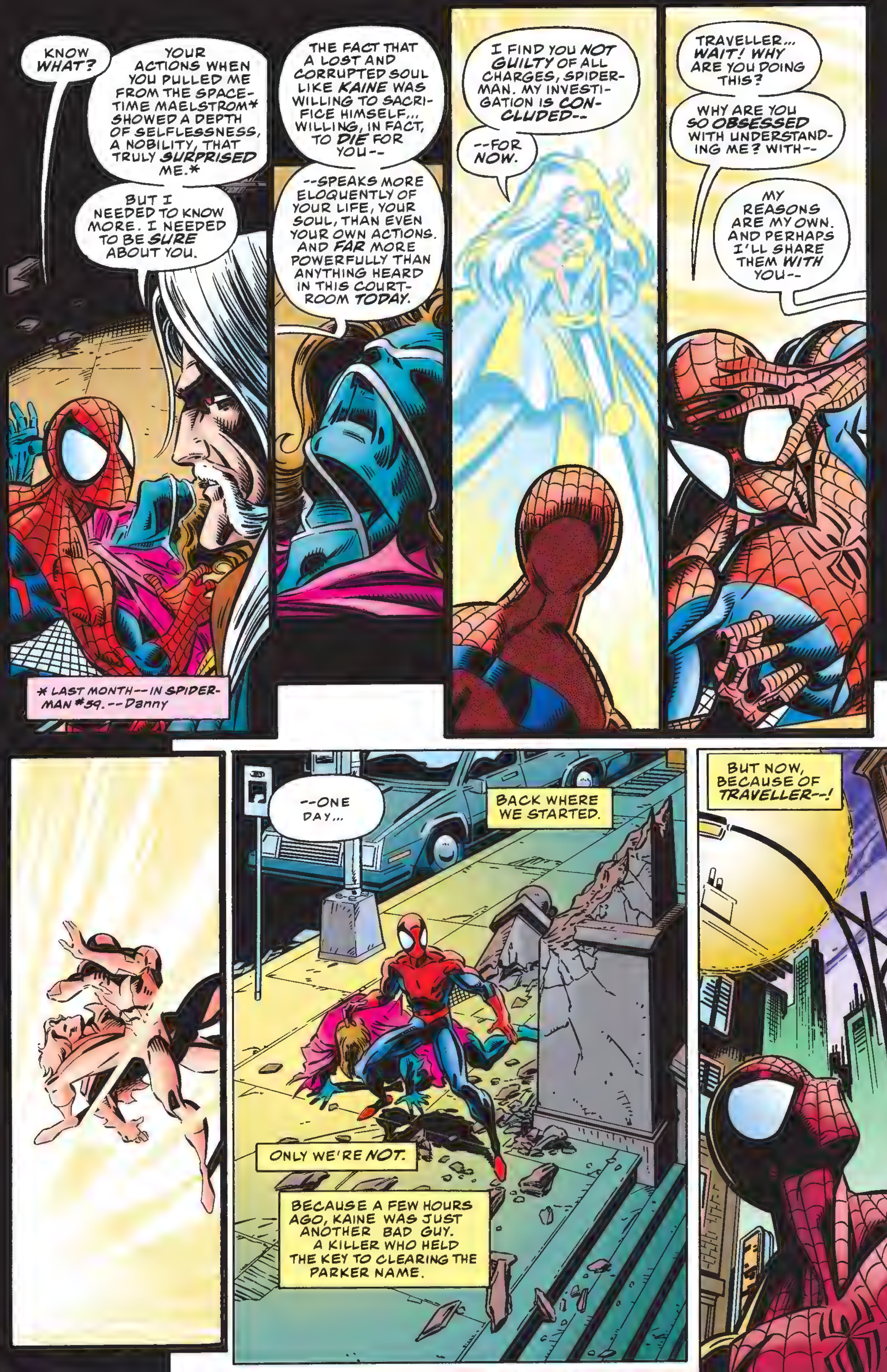

BUT I'M AFRAID, DEAR PETER, THAT WHAT *YOU* WANT IS OF NO RELEVANCE TO THIS COURT.
B-BUT THE *DEFENSE* HASN'T PRESENTED *ITS* CASE!
YOU CAN'T *DO* THIS TO HIM! HE--
AND GOD BLESS THEM *BOTH* FOR STANDING UP FOR ME...
GENTLEMEN AND LADIES OF THE JURY--
--HAVE YOU REACHED YOUR *VERDICT?*
WITH *THAT* JURY... I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY DOUBT. ASIDE FROM MALCOLM, THE ONLY SANE PERSON *OVER* THERE IS DOCTOR KAFKA'S ASSISTANT, *EDWARD WHELAN.*
WE FIND THE DEFENDANT--
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
GUILTY!
...FOR ALL THE *GOOD* IT'LL DO ME!
WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT'S *HAPPENING* TO THEM? WHAT'S TRAVELLER DOING *NOW?*
NO! THEY'VE BOTH WORKED SO *HARD*... STRUGGLED SO *LONG*... TO KILL THEIR INNER DEMONS! TO BE FREE OF...
...*CARRION* AND *VERMIN!*
HE *IS* GUILTY-- BEYOND A SHADOW OF A DOUBT.
AND THE SSSENTENCE ISSS-- *DEATH!*
AAAAAA!
CHAK!
WELL, THE *GOOD* NEWS IS...

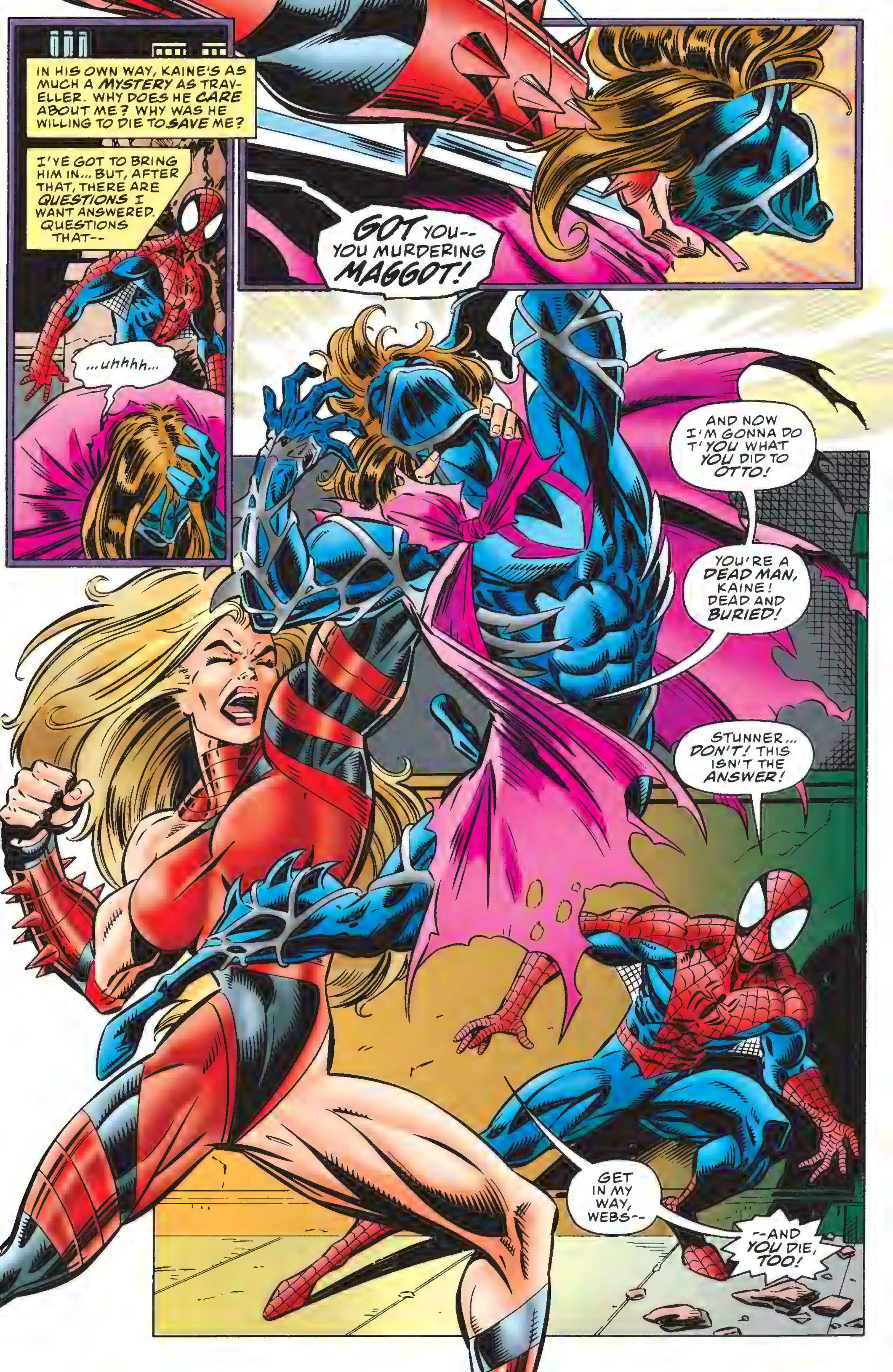

...THINGS COULDN'T *POSSIBLY* GET ANY *WORSE*--!
WHERE *ARE* THEY?!
WE'VE SEARCHED EVERY ALLEY... EVERY ROOFTOP--
--PEOPLE DON'T JUST *VANISH* INTO *THIN AIR!*
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THAT'S *EXACTLY* WHAT SPIDER-MAN AND KAINE *DID.*
THOOM!
WE HAD THAT MURDERING $*#!! IN OUR *HANDS!*
WE *HAD* HIM!
AND WE'LL HAVE KAINE AGAIN, *STUNNER*. I *SWEAR* TO YOU... AND TO *GOD*. WE'LL *HAVE* HIM.
IF I HAVE TO, I'LL WALK THROUGH THE FIRES OF *HELL* TO SEE THAT JUSTICE IS DONE.
TO YOU, *DETECTIVE RAVEN*, IT'S *JUSTICE*. TO ME--IT'S MY *LIFE!*
OTTO... HE WAS *EVERYTHING* TO ME. UNTIL I MET HIM... NOBODY EVER LOVED ME... NOBODY EVER *CARED!*
YOU CAN'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LOSE SOMEONE YOU *LOVE!* HOW IT RIPS YOU *APART* AND--
I KNOW, STUNNER--
--MORE THAN YOU *REALIZE!*

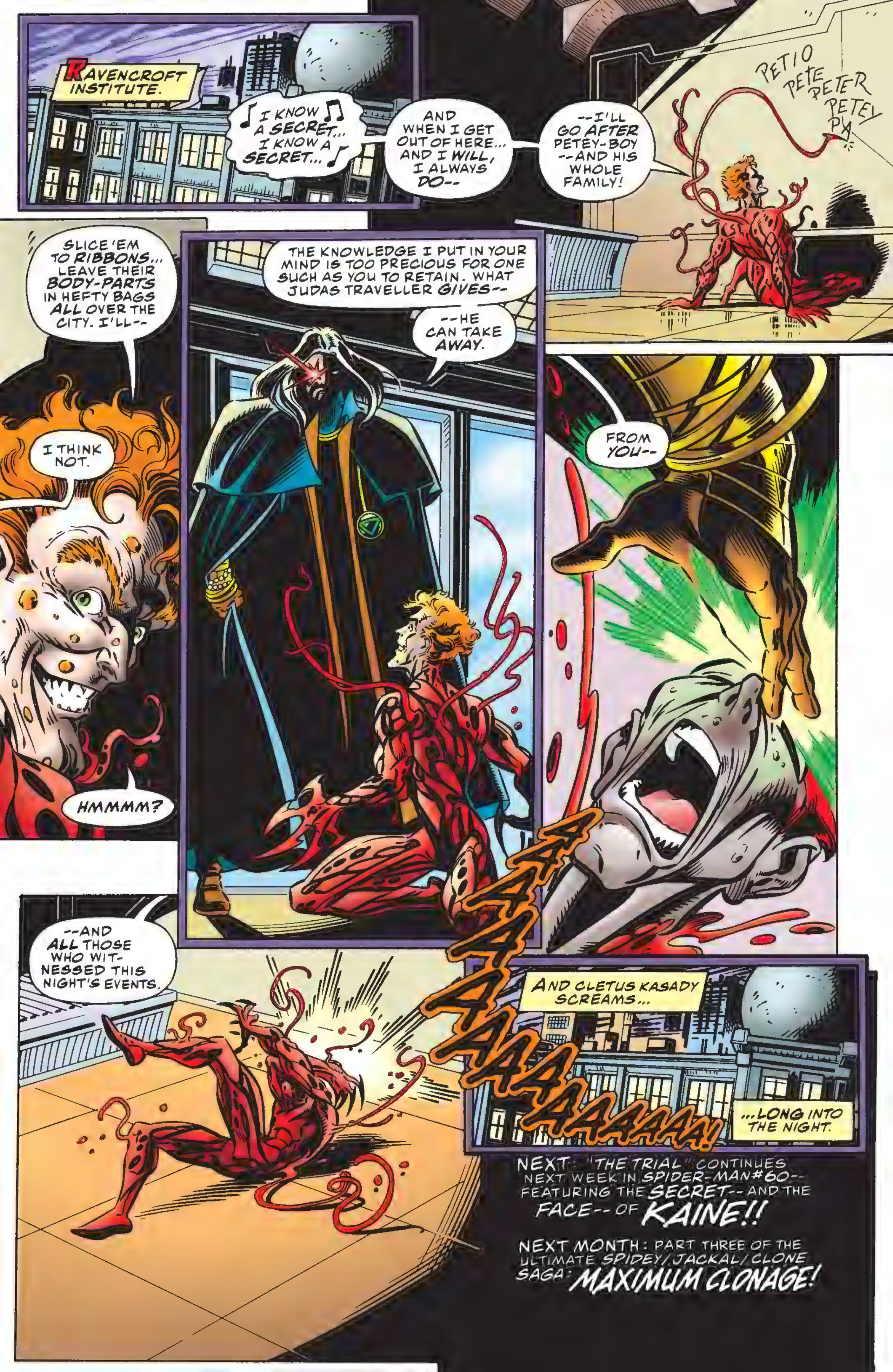

LOOK, WHY DON'T WE HEAD DOWNTOWN TO THE COURTHOUSE. MAYBE THEY'VE--
OH, NO.
WHAT *IS* IT? WHAT'S *WRONG?*
SORRY, JAKE--
--I'M GONNA HAVE TO BE... *GOING.*
WHAT DO YOU *MEAN?* WHERE ARE YOU--
DON'T *WORRY* ABOUT ME. I'LL BE *OKAY.* AND I PROMISE *YOU*--
--I'LL BE BACK...
DIDN'T SHE JUST SAY THAT PEOPLE *DON'T* JUST VANISH INTO *THIN AIR?*
KOOM!
BASED UPON THE EVIDENCE HEARD TODAY--*AND* THE JUDGEMENT OF THE JURY--
--I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO *SENTENCE* YOU, PETER PARKER--
--TO *DEATH.*
MR. PROSECUTOR ...MEMBERS OF THE *JURY*--


--CARRY OUT THE EXECUTION--!!
NO!
I WON'T LET THIS HAPPEN!
I WON'T LET HIM DIE!
HOW DARE YOU ALL SIT IN JUDGEMENT ON HIM? HOW DARE YOU?!
THERE'S SUCH GOODNESS IN THIS MAN ...SUCH KINDNESS AND DECENCY--
--THAT HIS LIFE IS WORTH MORE THAN ALL OF OURS COMBINED!
HE'S EVERYTHING I COULD EVER HOPE TO BE... AND SO MUCH MORE!
AND THAT'S WHY I'D SACRIFICE MYSELF NOT ONCE--
--BUT A THOUSAND TIMES--
--SO THAT HE--
--COULD--


THE OTHERS! WHERE ARE THEY--?
BACK IN THEIR CELLS --WHERE THEY BELONG.
AND KAINE! IS HE--?
HE IS ALIVE. BUT HE WOULD HAVE BEEN DEAD... HAD I NOT STOPPED THIS.
I WANTED TO HELP HIM, TRAVELLER! WHY DID YOU STOP ME?
YOU HAD TO REMAIN PARALYZED... OR ELSE--HOW COULD I KNOW?

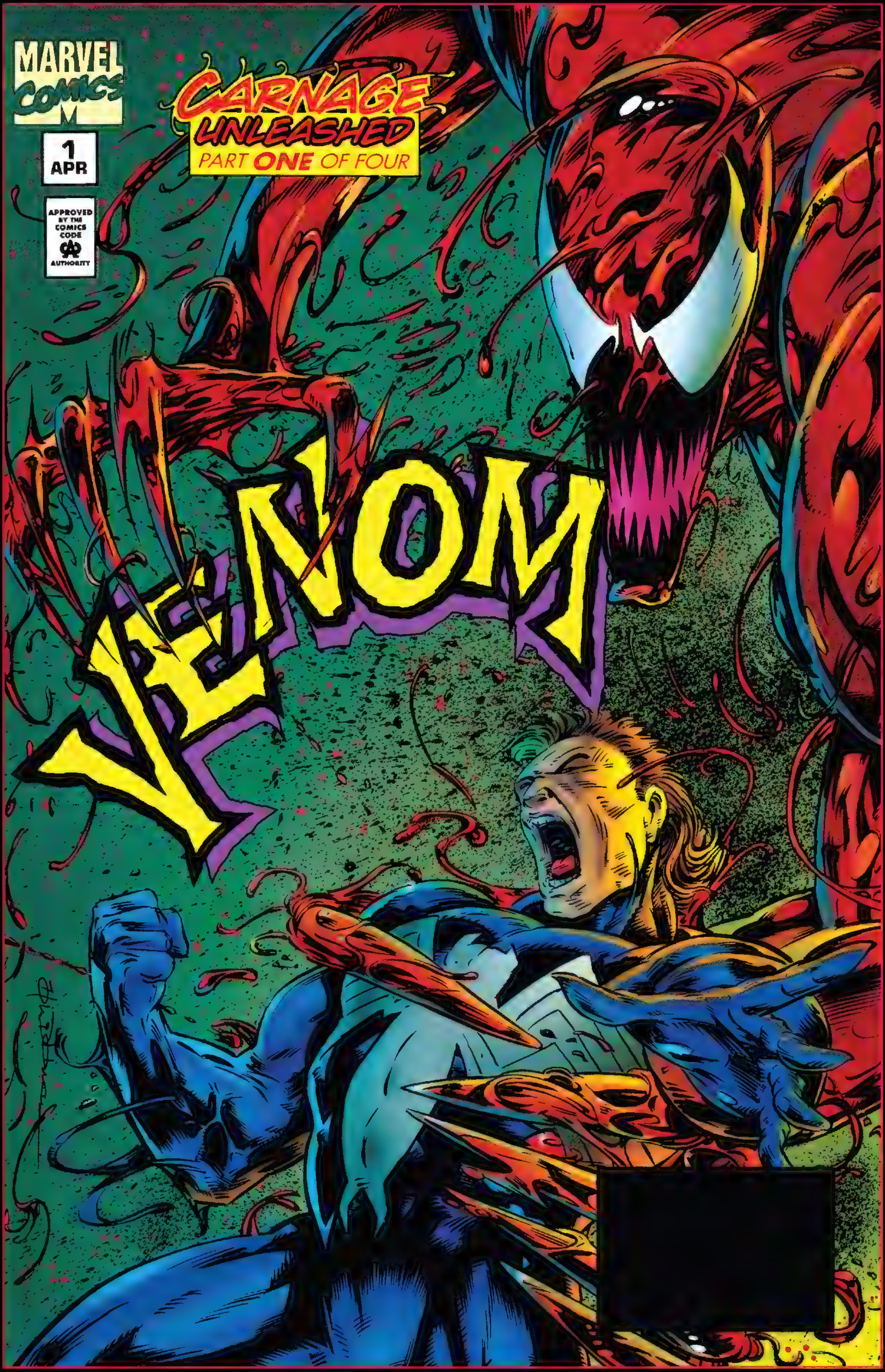

KNOW WHAT?
YOUR ACTIONS WHEN YOU PULLED ME FROM THE SPACE-TIME MAELSTROM* SHOWED A DEPTH OF SELFLESSNESS, A NOBILITY, THAT TRULY SURPRISED ME.*
BUT I NEEDED TO KNOW MORE. I NEEDED TO BE SURE ABOUT YOU.
* LAST MONTH--IN SPIDER-MAN #59.--Danny
THE FACT THAT A LOST AND CORRUPTED SOUL LIKE KAINE WAS WILLING TO SACRIFICE HIMSELF... WILLING, IN FACT, TO DIE FOR YOU--
--SPEAKS MORE ELOQUENTLY OF YOUR LIFE, YOUR SOUL, THAN EVEN YOUR OWN ACTIONS. AND FAR MORE POWERFULLY THAN ANYTHING HEARD IN THIS COURTROOM TODAY.
I FIND YOU NOT GUILTY OF ALL CHARGES, SPIDER-MAN. MY INVESTIGATION IS CONCLUDED--
--FOR NOW.
TRAVELLER... WAIT! WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
WHY ARE YOU SO OBSESSED WITH UNDERSTANDING ME? WITH--
MY REASONS ARE MY OWN. AND PERHAPS I'LL SHARE THEM WITH YOU--
--ONE DAY...
BACK WHERE WE STARTED.
ONLY WE'RE NOT.
BECAUSE A FEW HOURS AGO, KAINE WAS JUST ANOTHER BAD GUY. A KILLER WHO HELD THE KEY TO CLEARING THE PARKER NAME.
BUT NOW, BECAUSE OF TRAVELLER--!

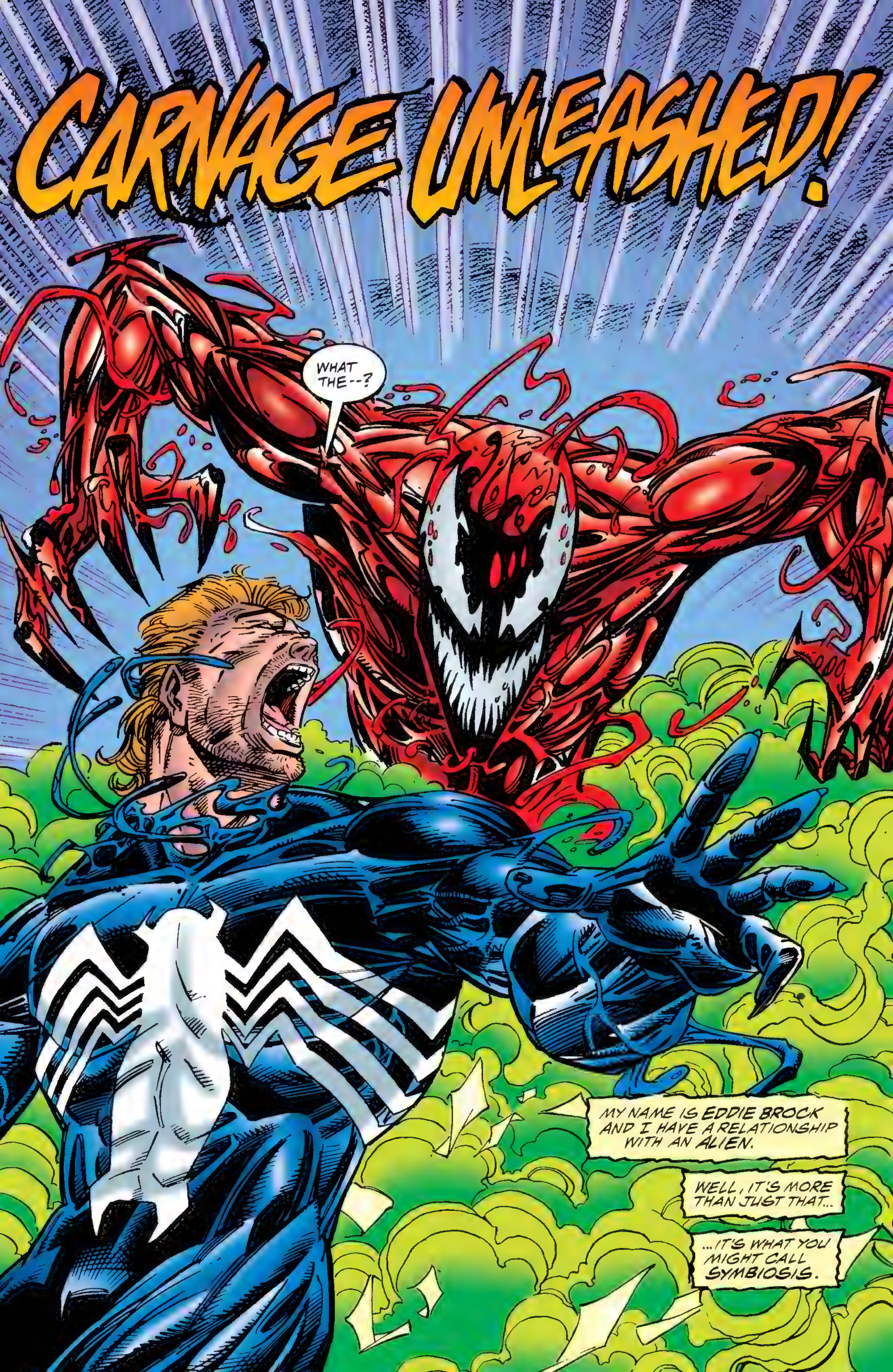

IN HIS OWN WAY, KAINE'S AS MUCH A *MYSTERY* AS TRAVELLER. WHY DOES HE *CARE* ABOUT ME? WHY WAS HE WILLING TO DIE TO *SAVE* ME?
I'VE GOT TO BRING HIM IN... BUT, AFTER THAT, THERE ARE *QUESTIONS* I WANT ANSWERED. QUESTIONS THAT--
...uhhhh...
GOT YOU-- YOU MURDERING *MAGGOT!*
AND NOW I'M GONNA DO T'*YOU* WHAT *YOU* DID TO *OTTO!*
YOU'RE A *DEAD MAN,* KAINE! DEAD AND *BURIED!*
STUNNER... *DON'T!* THIS ISN'T THE *ANSWER!*
GET IN MY WAY, WEBS--
--AND *YOU* DIE, *TOO!*

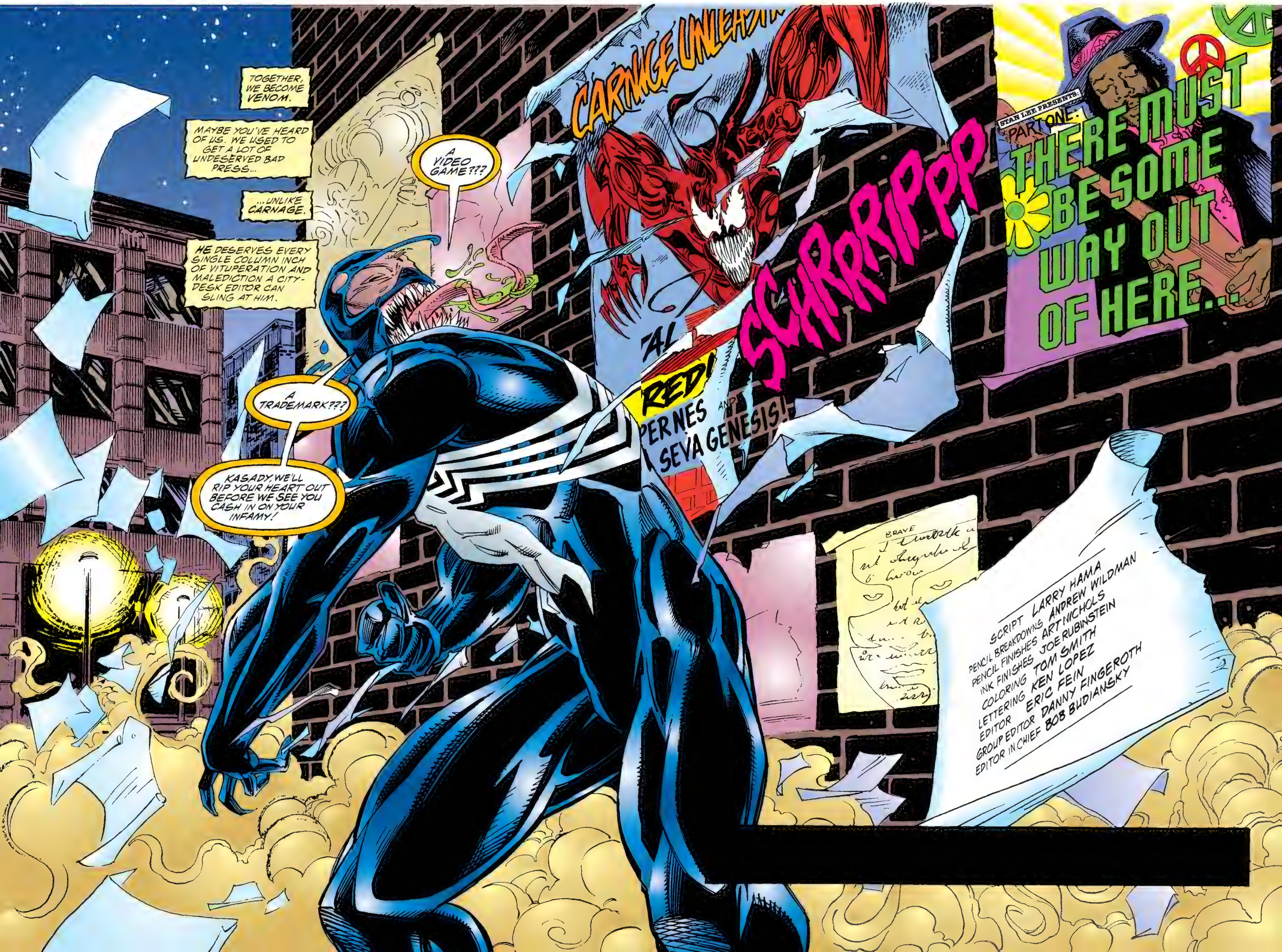

RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE.
♪ I KNOW ♫ A SECRET... I KNOW A SECRET... ♪
AND WHEN I GET OUT OF HERE... AND I WILL, I ALWAYS DO--
--I'LL GO AFTER PETEY-BOY --AND HIS WHOLE FAMILY!
PETIO PETE PETER PETEY PA
SLICE 'EM TO RIBBONS... LEAVE THEIR BODY-PARTS IN HEFTY BAGS ALL OVER THE CITY. I'LL--
I THINK NOT.
HMMMM?
THE KNOWLEDGE I PUT IN YOUR MIND IS TOO PRECIOUS FOR ONE SUCH AS YOU TO RETAIN. WHAT JUDAS TRAVELLER GIVES--
--HE CAN TAKE AWAY.
FROM YOU--
--AND ALL THOSE WHO WITNESSED THIS NIGHT'S EVENTS.
AAAAAAAAAAAAAA!
AND CLETUS KASADY SCREAMS...
...LONG INTO THE NIGHT.

NEXT: "THE TRIAL" CONTINUES NEXT WEEK IN SPIDER-MAN #60-- FEATURING THE SECRET-- AND THE FACE-- OF KAINE!!

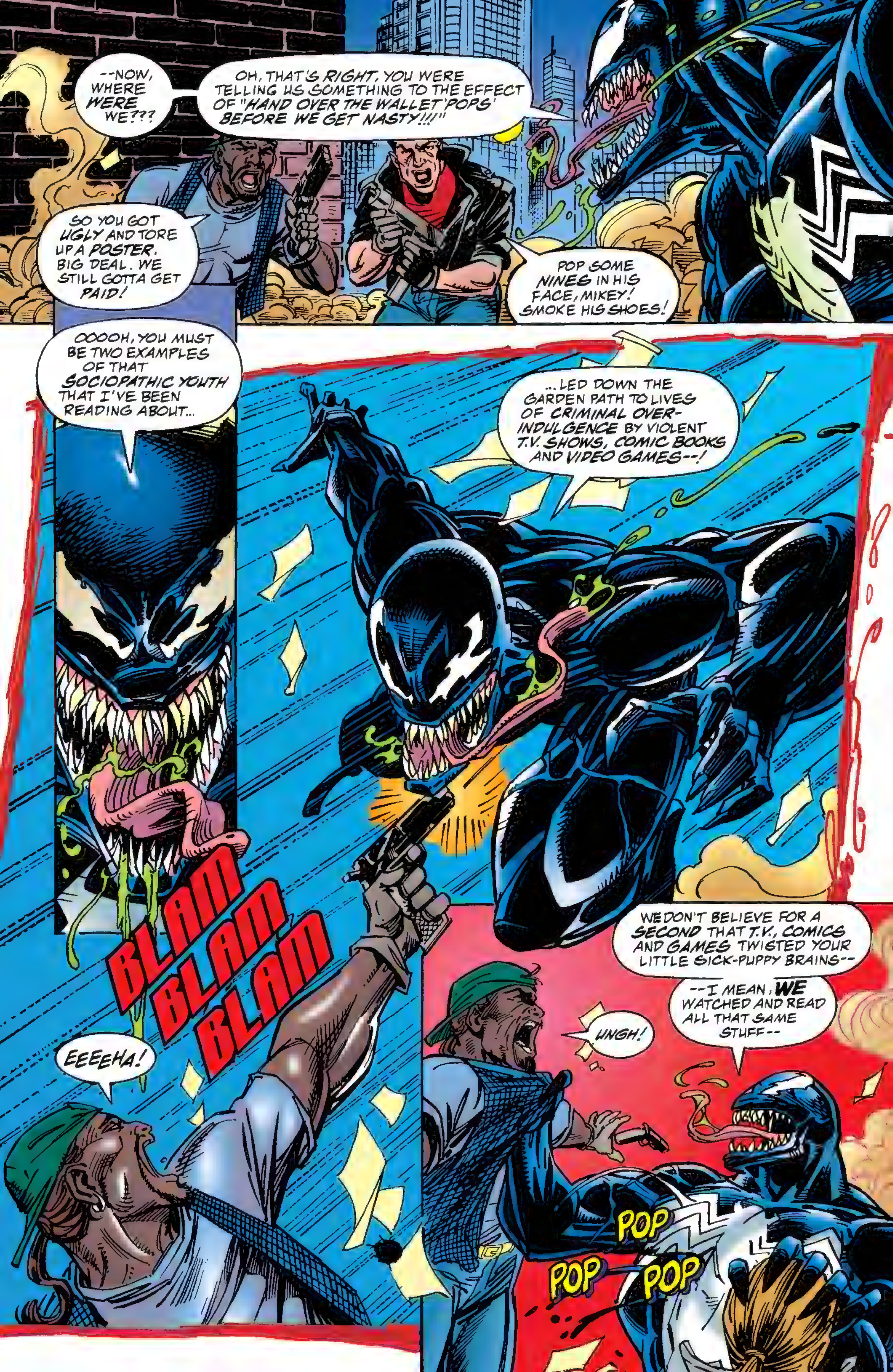
NEXT MONTH: PART THREE OF THE ULTIMATE SPIDEY/JACKAL/CLONE SAGA: MAXIMUM CLONAGE!

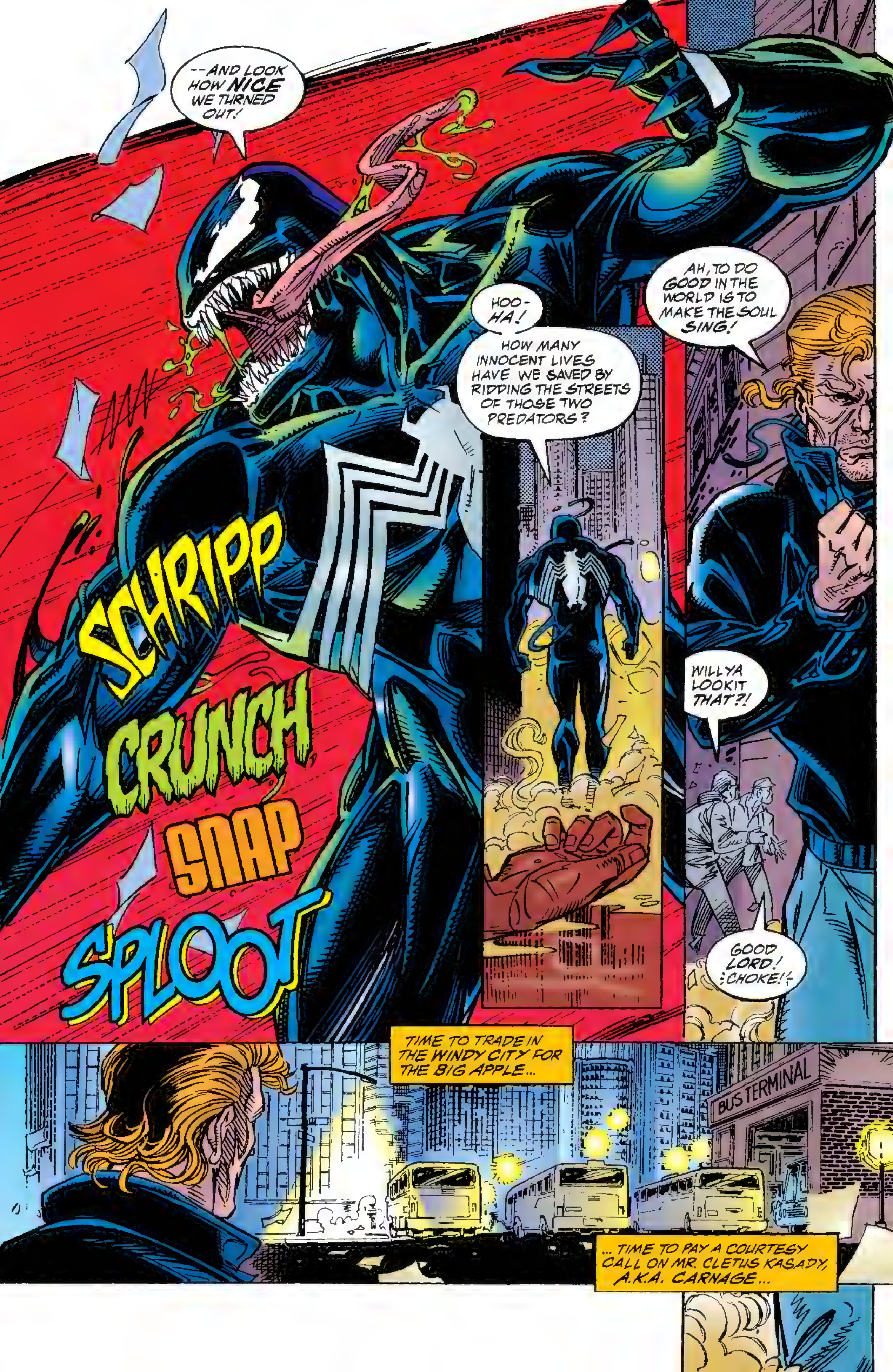

MARVEL COMICS
1 APR
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
CARNAGE UNLEASHED
PART ONE OF FOUR
VENOM

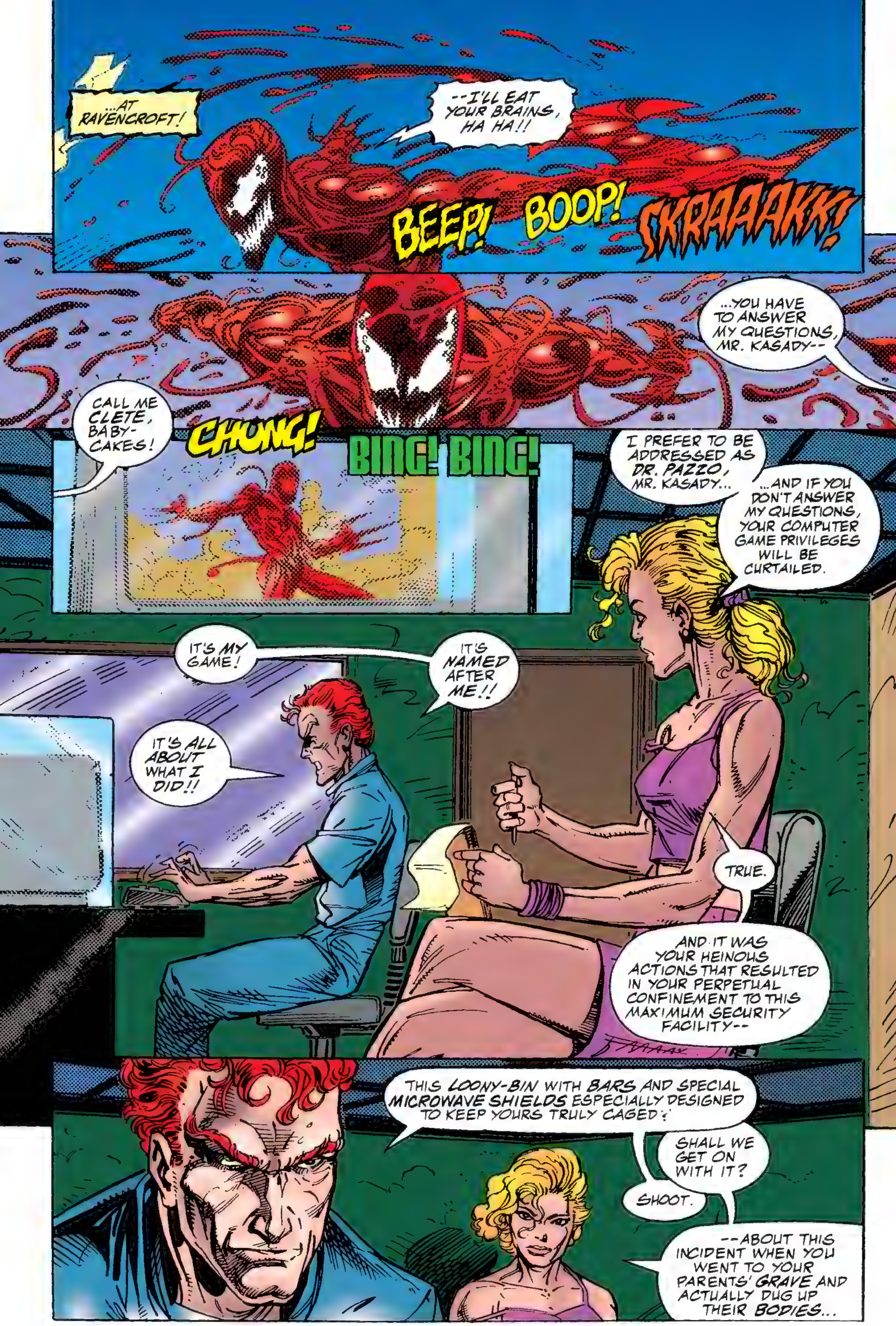

CARNAGE UNLEASHED!
WHAT THE--?
MY NAME IS EDDIE BROCK AND I HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH AN ALIEN.
WELL, IT'S MORE THAN JUST THAT...
...IT'S WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL SYMBIOSIS.

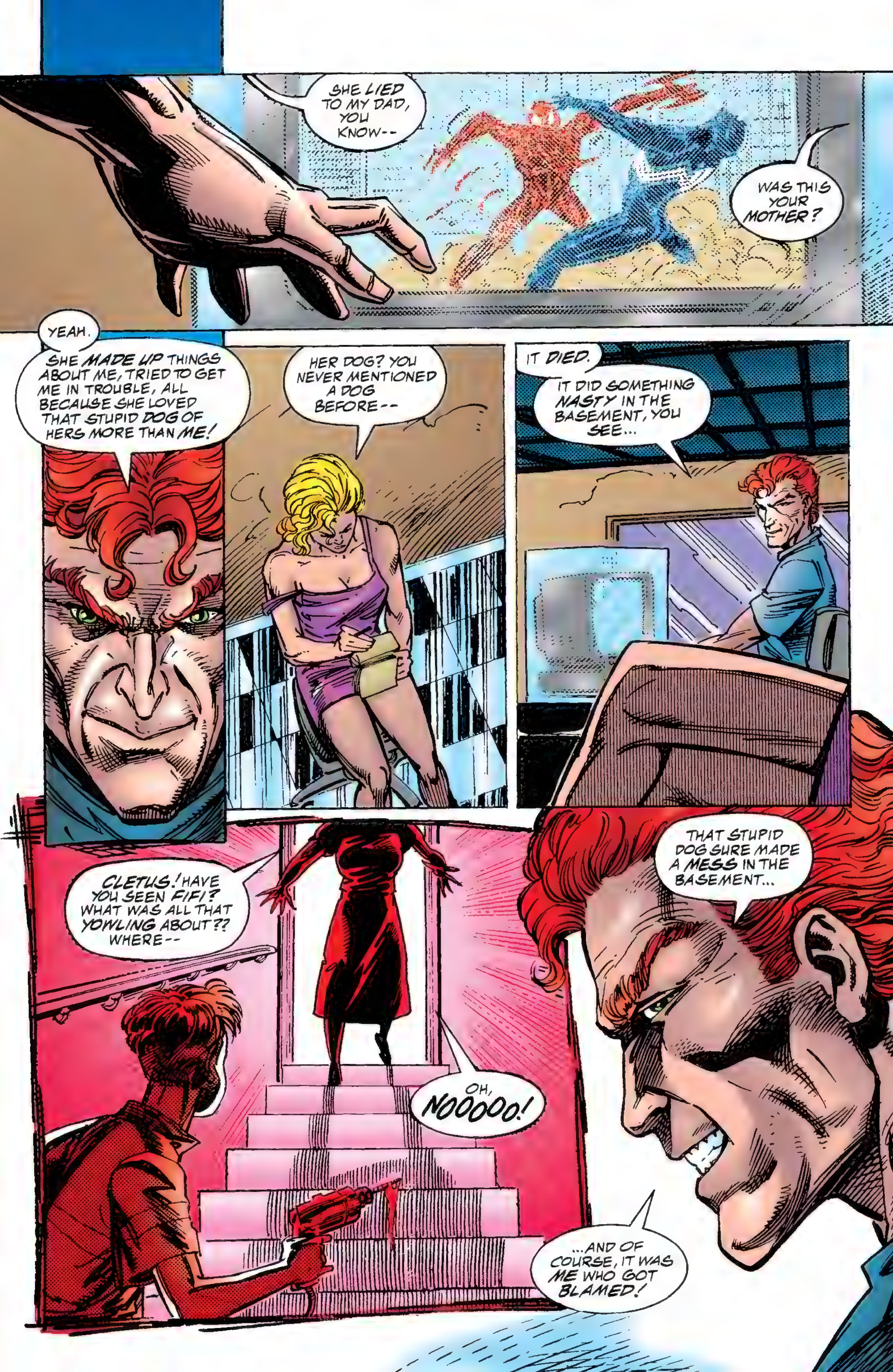

TOGETHER, WE BECOME VENOM.
MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF US. WE USED TO GET A LOT OF UNDESERVED BAD PRESS...
...UNLIKE CARNAGE.
HE DESERVES EVERY SINGLE COLUMN INCH OF VITUPERATION AND MALEDICTION A CITY-DESK EDITOR CAN SLING AT HIM.
A VIDEO GAME???
A TRADEMARK???
KASADY, WE'LL RIP YOUR HEART OUT BEFORE WE SEE YOU CASH IN ON YOUR INFAMY!
CARNAGE UNLEASH
REDI
PER NES AND
SEVA GENESIS!
SCHRRRIPPP
STAN LEE PRESENTS:
PART ONE:
THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OUT OF HERE...
BRAVE
SCRIPT LARRY HAMA
PENCIL BREAKDOWNS ANDREW WILDMAN
PENCIL FINISHES ART NICHOLS
INK FINISHES JOE RUBINSTEIN
COLORING TOM SMITH
LETTERING KEN LOPEZ
EDITOR ERIC FEIN
GROUP EDITOR DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR IN CHIEF BOB BUDIANSKY

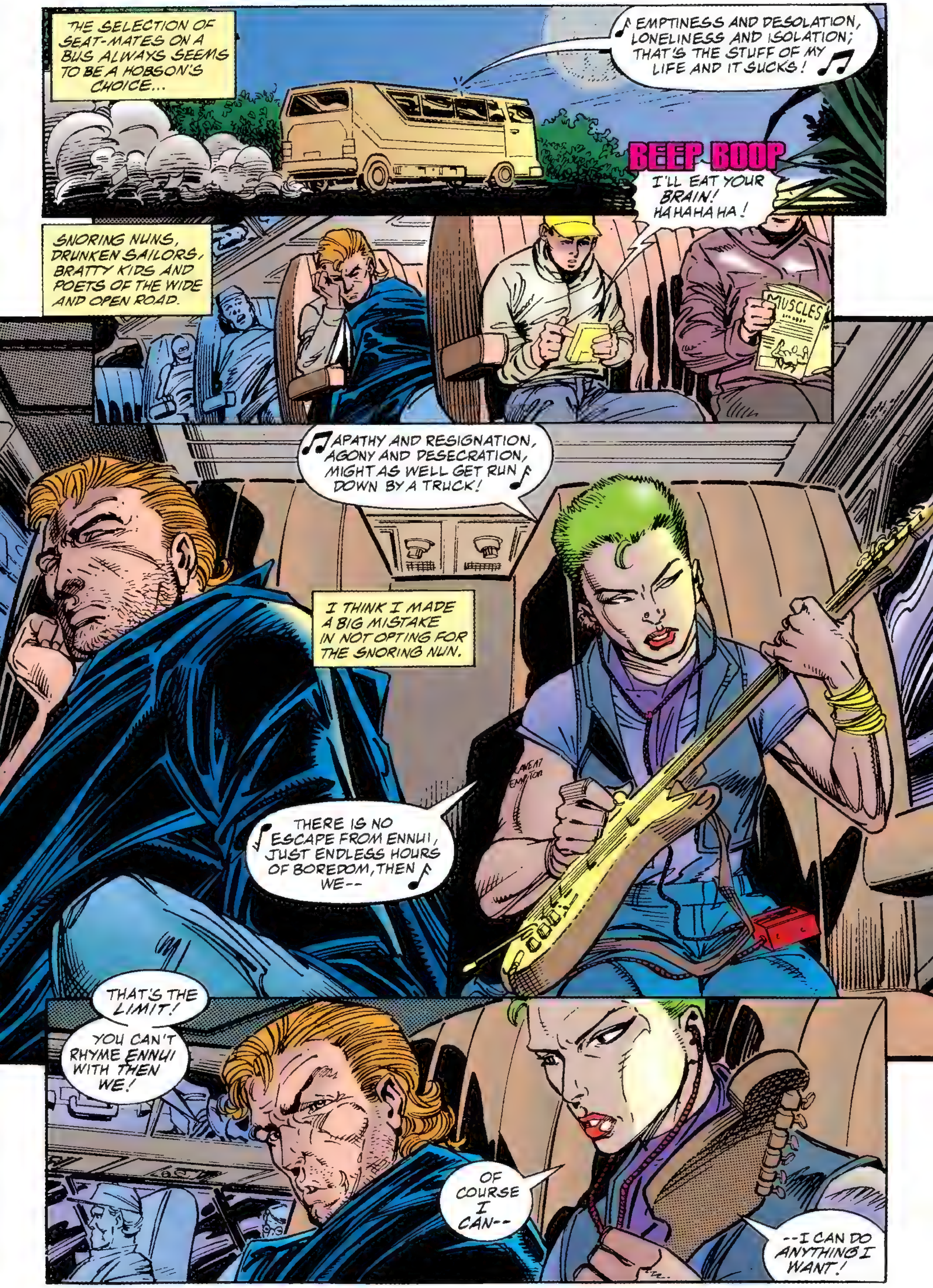
[redacted]

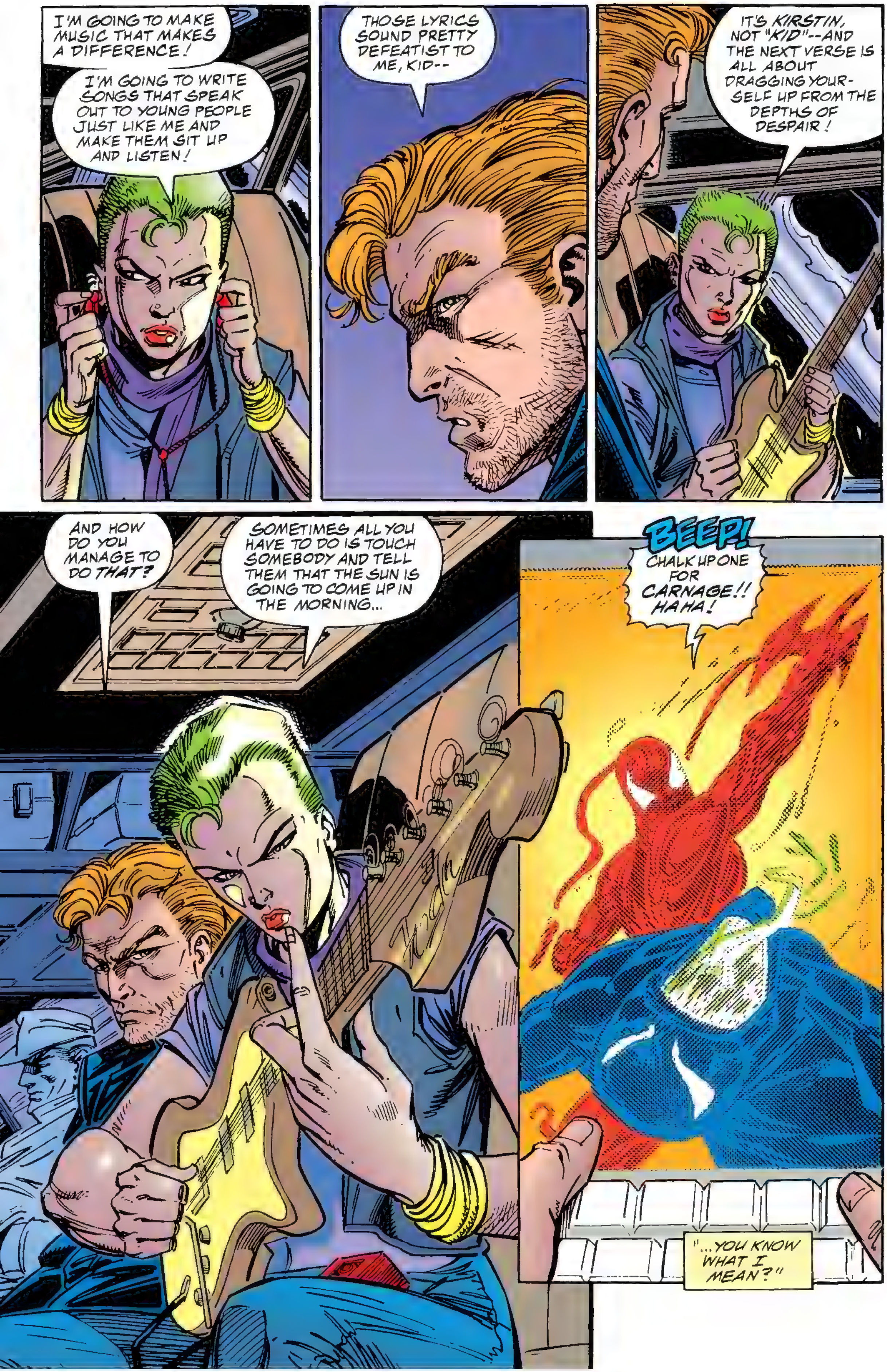

--NOW, WHERE *WERE* WE???
OH, THAT'S *RIGHT*, YOU WERE TELLING US SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT OF *"HAND OVER THE WALLET 'POPS' BEFORE WE GET NASTY!!!"*
SO YOU GOT *UGLY* AND TORE UP A *POSTER*. BIG DEAL. WE STILL GOTTA GET *PAID!*
POP SOME *NINES* IN HIS FACE, MIKEY! SMOKE HIS SHOES!
OOOOH, YOU MUST BE TWO EXAMPLES OF THAT *SOCIOPATHIC YOUTH* THAT I'VE BEEN READING ABOUT...
...LED DOWN THE GARDEN PATH TO LIVES OF *CRIMINAL OVER-INDULGENCE* BY VIOLENT *T.V. SHOWS, COMIC BOOKS* AND *VIDEO GAMES*--!
BLAM BLAM BLAM
EEEEHA!
WE DON'T BELIEVE FOR A *SECOND* THAT *T.V., COMICS* AND *GAMES* TWISTED YOUR LITTLE SICK-PUPPY BRAINS--
UNGH!
--I MEAN, **WE** WATCHED AND READ ALL THAT SAME STUFF--
POP POP POP

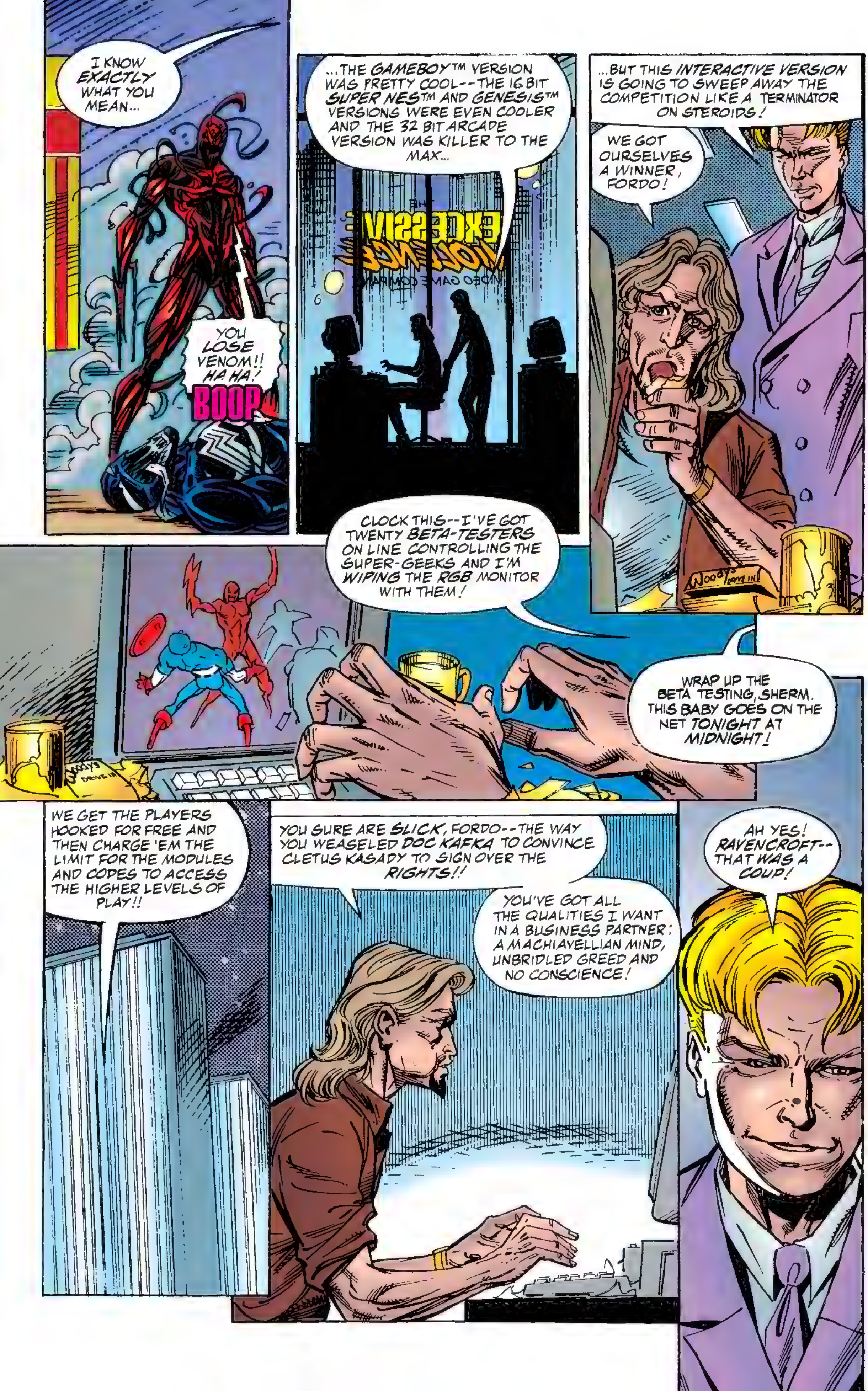

--AND LOOK HOW NICE WE TURNED OUT!
SCHRIPP
CRUNCH
SNAP
SPLOOT
HOO-HA!
HOW MANY INNOCENT LIVES HAVE WE SAVED BY RIDDING THE STREETS OF THOSE TWO PREDATORS?
AH, TO DO GOOD IN THE WORLD IS TO MAKE THE SOUL SING!
WILLYA LOOKIT THAT?!
GOOD LORD! CHOKE!
TIME TO TRADE IN THE WINDY CITY FOR THE BIG APPLE...
BUS TERMINAL
...TIME TO PAY A COURTESY CALL ON MR. CLETUS KASADY, A.K.A. CARNAGE...

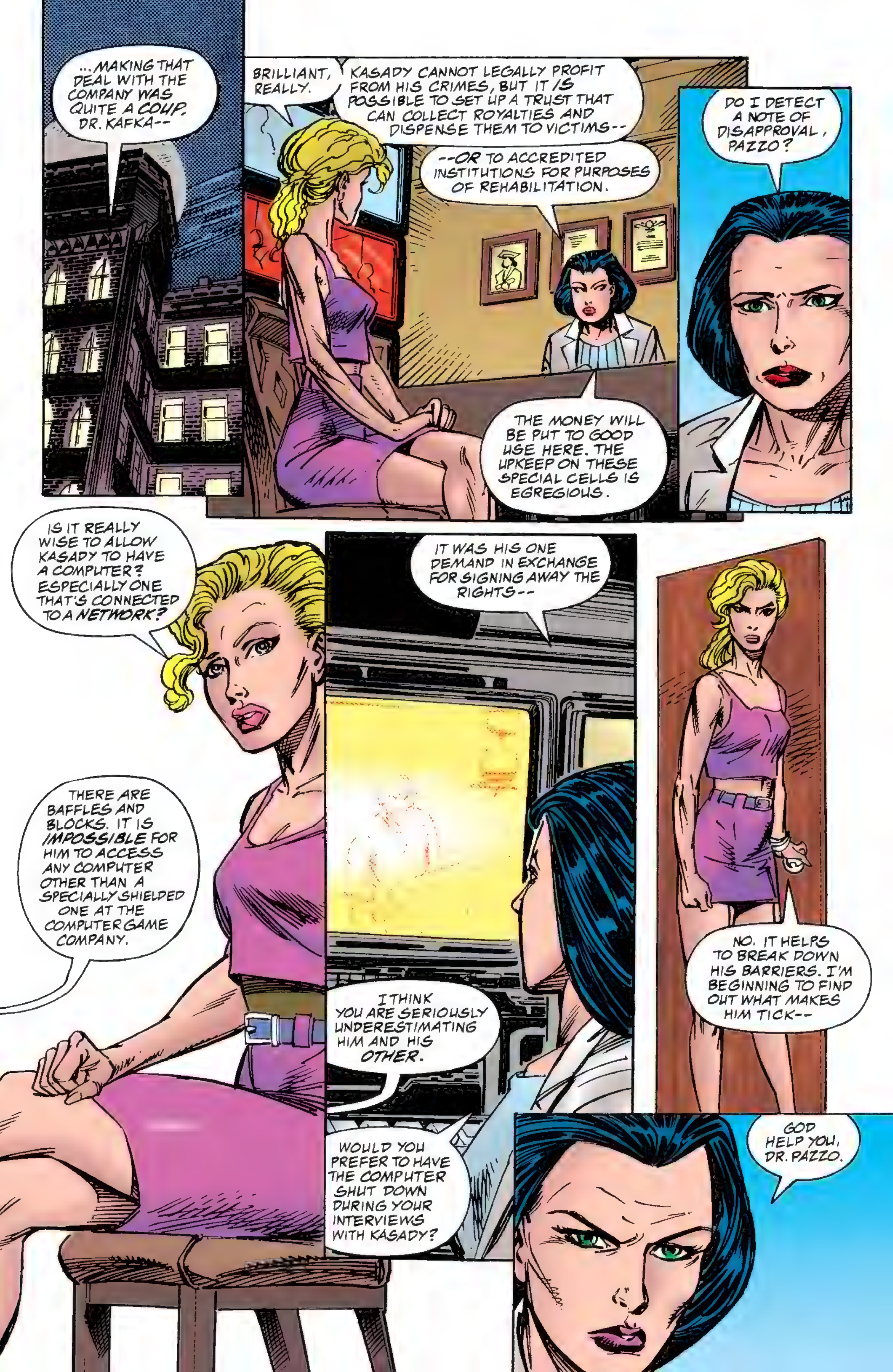

...AT RAVENCROFT!
--I'LL EAT YOUR BRAINS, HA HA!!
BEEP! BOOP! SKRAAAKK!
...YOU HAVE TO ANSWER MY QUESTIONS, MR. KASADY--
CALL ME CLETE, BABY-CAKES!
CHUNG!
BING! BING!
I PREFER TO BE ADDRESSED AS DR. PAZZO, MR. KASADY...
...AND IF YOU DON'T ANSWER MY QUESTIONS, YOUR COMPUTER GAME PRIVILEGES WILL BE CURTAILED.
IT'S MY GAME!
IT'S NAMED AFTER ME!!
IT'S ALL ABOUT WHAT I DID!!
TRUE.
AND IT WAS YOUR HEINOUS ACTIONS THAT RESULTED IN YOUR PERPETUAL CONFINEMENT TO THIS MAXIMUM SECURITY FACILITY--
THIS LOONY-BIN WITH BARS AND SPECIAL MICROWAVE SHIELDS ESPECIALLY DESIGNED TO KEEP YOURS TRULY CAGED.
SHALL WE GET ON WITH IT?
SHOOT.
--ABOUT THIS INCIDENT WHEN YOU WENT TO YOUR PARENTS' GRAVE AND ACTUALLY DUG UP THEIR BODIES...

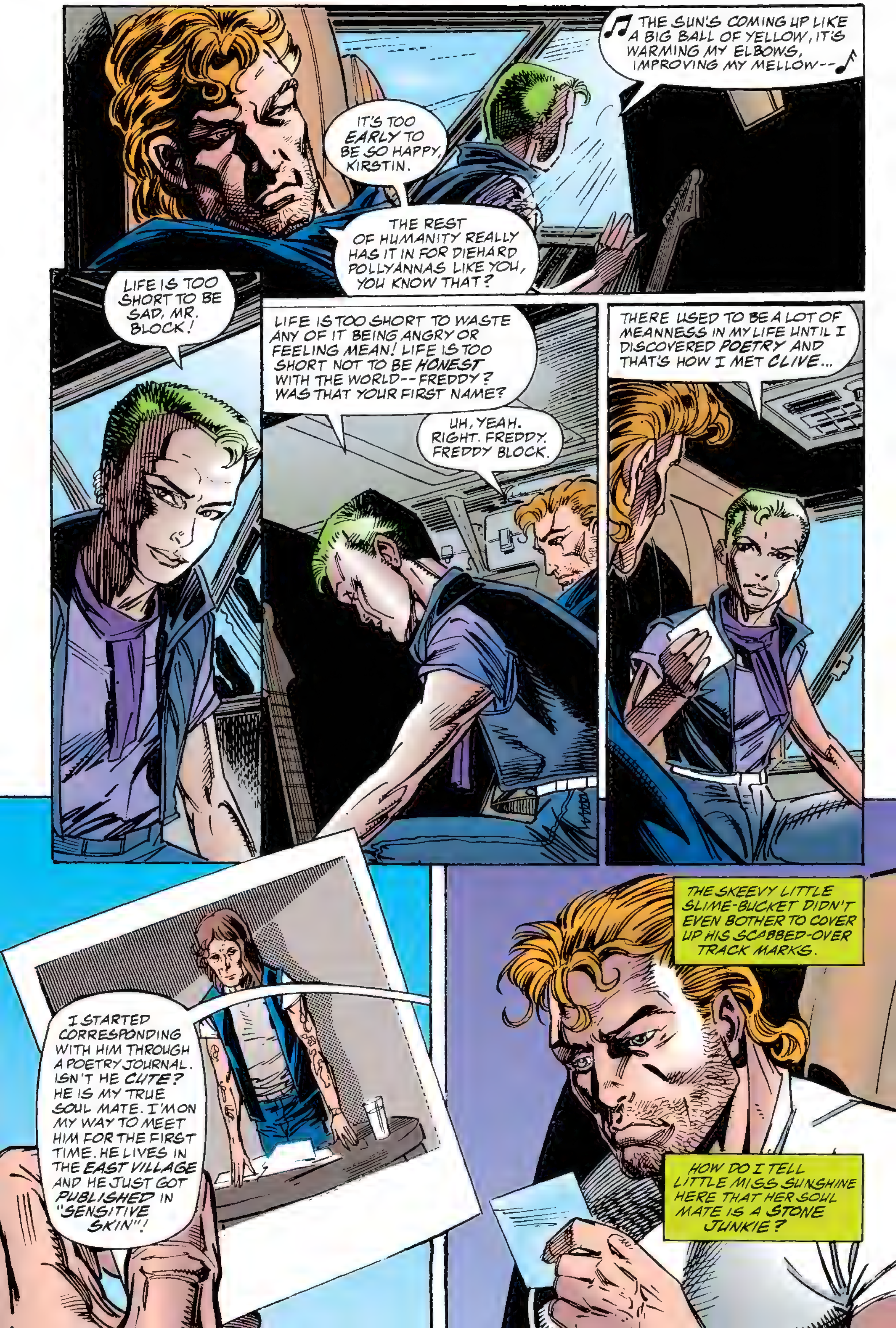

SHE LIED TO MY DAD, YOU KNOW--
WAS THIS YOUR MOTHER?
YEAH.
SHE MADE UP THINGS ABOUT ME, TRIED TO GET ME IN TROUBLE, ALL BECAUSE SHE LOVED THAT STUPID DOG OF HERS MORE THAN ME!
HER DOG? YOU NEVER MENTIONED A DOG BEFORE--
IT DIED.
IT DID SOMETHING NASTY IN THE BASEMENT, YOU SEE...
CLETUS! HAVE YOU SEEN FIFI? WHAT WAS ALL THAT YOWLING ABOUT?? WHERE--
OH, NOOOOO!
THAT STUPID DOG SURE MADE A MESS IN THE BASEMENT...
...AND OF COURSE, IT WAS ME WHO GOT BLAMED!

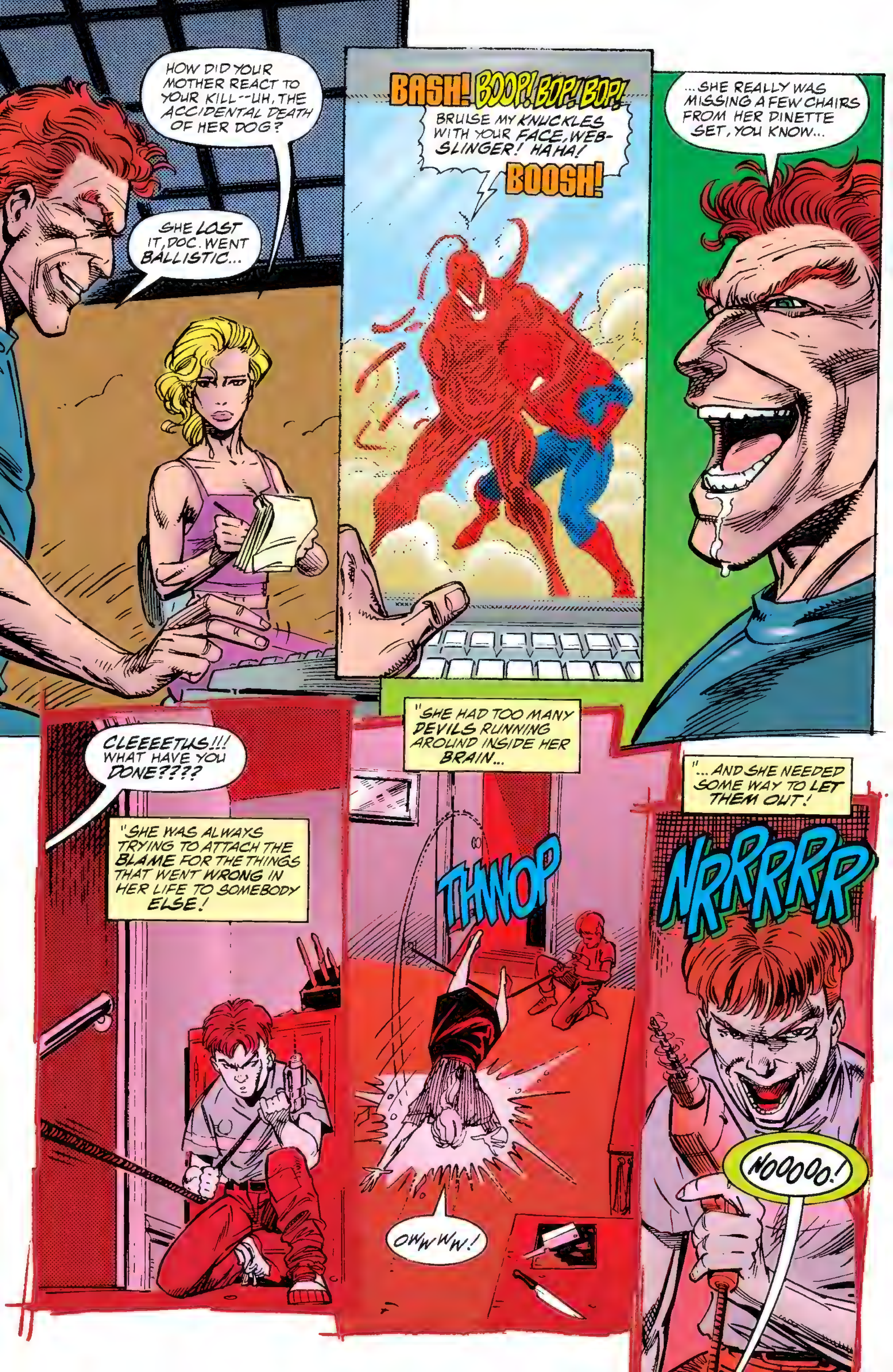

THE SELECTION OF SEAT-MATES ON A BUS ALWAYS SEEMS TO BE A HOBSON'S CHOICE...
♪ EMPTINESS AND DESOLATION, LONELINESS AND ISOLATION; THAT'S THE STUFF OF MY LIFE AND IT SUCKS! ♫
BEEP BOOP
I'LL EAT YOUR BRAIN! HAHAHAHA!
SNORING NUNS, DRUNKEN SAILORS, BRATTY KIDS AND POETS OF THE WIDE AND OPEN ROAD.
MUSCLES
♫ APATHY AND RESIGNATION, AGONY AND DESECRATION, MIGHT AS WELL GET RUN DOWN BY A TRUCK! ♪
I THINK I MADE A BIG MISTAKE IN NOT OPTING FOR THE SNORING NUN.
♪ THERE IS NO ESCAPE FROM ENNUI, JUST ENDLESS HOURS OF BOREDOM, THEN WE-- ♪
THAT'S THE LIMIT!
YOU CAN'T RHYME ENNUI WITH THEN WE!
OF COURSE I CAN--
--I CAN DO ANYTHING I WANT!

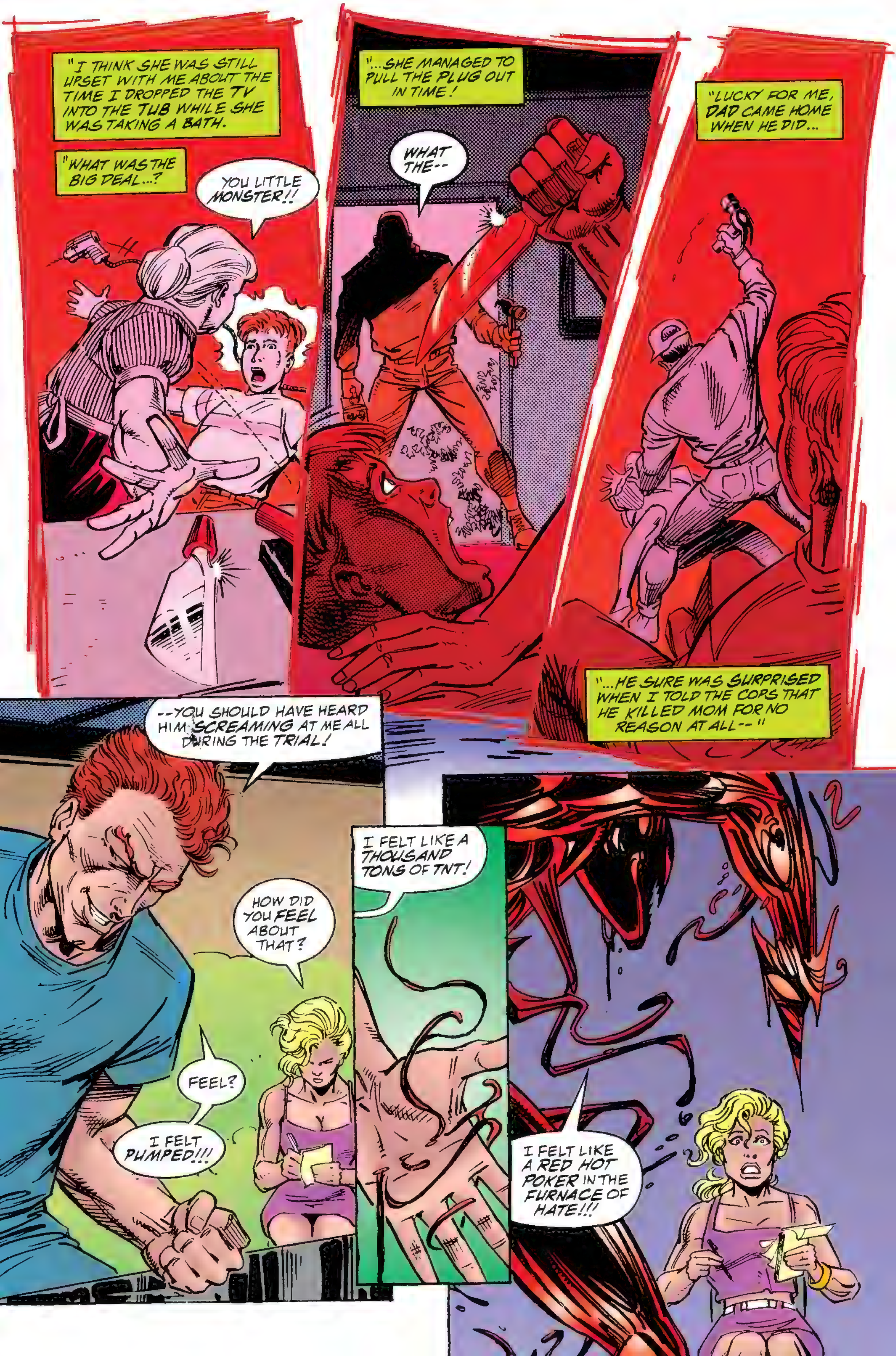

I'M GOING TO MAKE MUSIC THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!
I'M GOING TO WRITE SONGS THAT SPEAK OUT TO YOUNG PEOPLE JUST LIKE ME AND MAKE THEM SIT UP AND LISTEN!
THOSE LYRICS SOUND PRETTY DEFEATIST TO ME, KID--
IT'S KIRSTIN, NOT "KID"--AND THE NEXT VERSE IS ALL ABOUT DRAGGING YOURSELF UP FROM THE DEPTHS OF DESPAIR!
AND HOW DO YOU MANAGE TO DO THAT?
SOMETIMES ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TOUCH SOMEBODY AND TELL THEM THAT THE SUN IS GOING TO COME UP IN THE MORNING...
BEEP!
CHALK UP ONE FOR CARNAGE!! HAHA!
"...YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?"

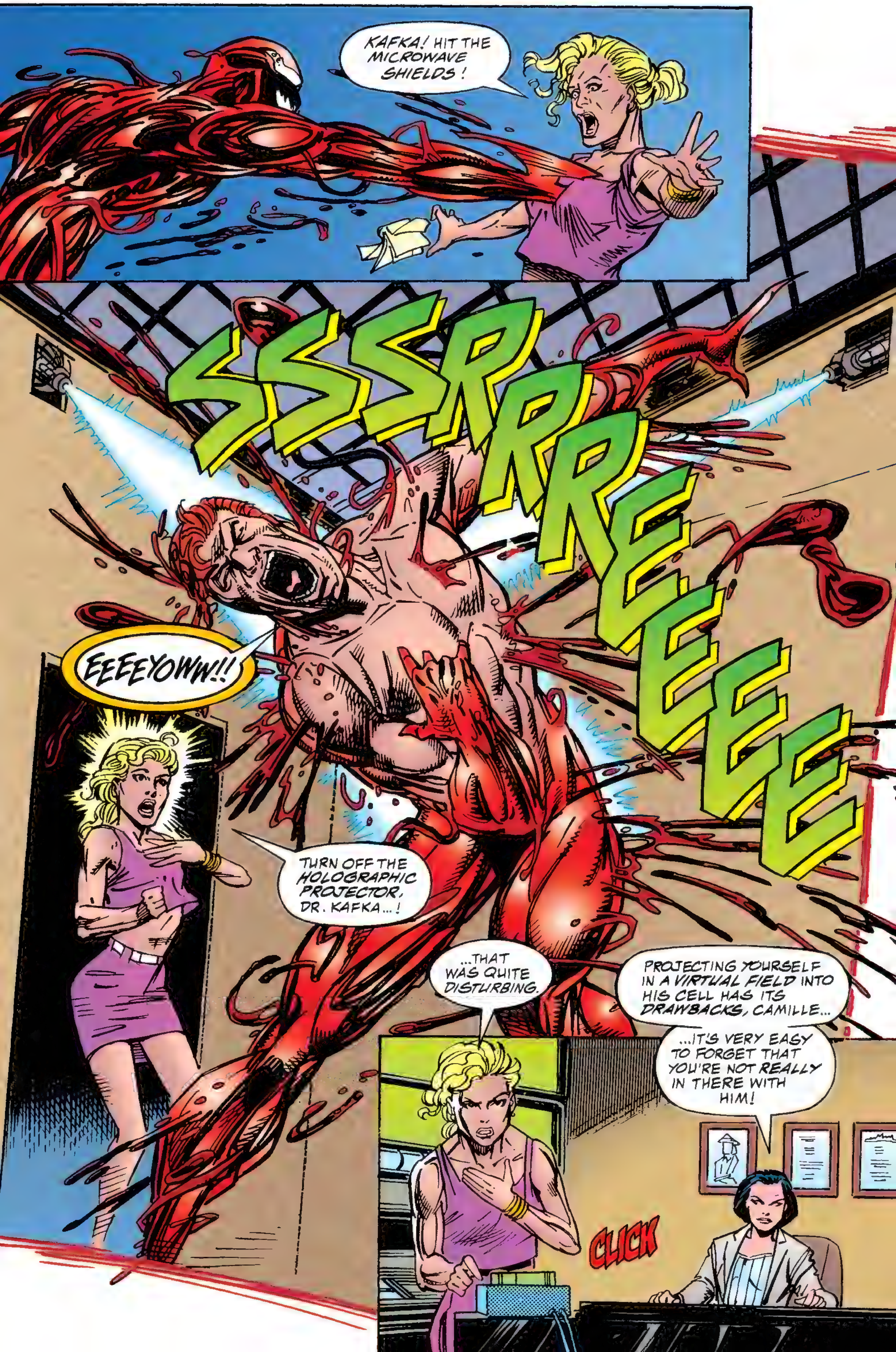

I KNOW *EXACTLY* WHAT YOU MEAN...
YOU *LOSE* VENOM!! *HA HA!*
BOOP
...THE *GAMEBOY*™ VERSION WAS PRETTY COOL--THE 16 BIT *SUPER NES*™ AND *GENESIS*™ VERSIONS WERE EVEN COOLER AND THE 32 BIT ARCADE VERSION WAS KILLER TO THE MAX...
THE EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE VIDEO GAME COMPANY
...BUT THIS *INTERACTIVE VERSION* IS GOING TO SWEEP AWAY THE COMPETITION LIKE A TERMINATOR ON STEROIDS!
WE GOT OURSELVES A WINNER, FORDO!
Woody's DRIVE IN
CLOCK THIS--I'VE GOT TWENTY *BETA-TESTERS* ON LINE CONTROLLING THE SUPER-GEEKS AND I'M *WIPING* THE *RGB* MONITOR WITH THEM!
WRAP UP THE BETA TESTING, SHERM. THIS BABY GOES ON THE NET *TONIGHT* AT *MIDNIGHT!*
Woody's DRIVE IN
WE GET THE PLAYERS HOOKED FOR FREE AND THEN CHARGE 'EM THE LIMIT FOR THE MODULES AND CODES TO ACCESS THE HIGHER LEVELS OF PLAY!!
YOU SURE ARE *SLICK*, FORDO--THE WAY YOU WEASELED *DOC KAFKA* TO CONVINCE CLETUS KASADY TO SIGN OVER THE *RIGHTS!!*
YOU'VE GOT ALL THE QUALITIES I WANT IN A BUSINESS PARTNER: A MACHIAVELLIAN MIND, UNBRIDLED GREED AND NO CONSCIENCE!
AH YES! *RAVENCROFT*--THAT WAS A *COUP!*

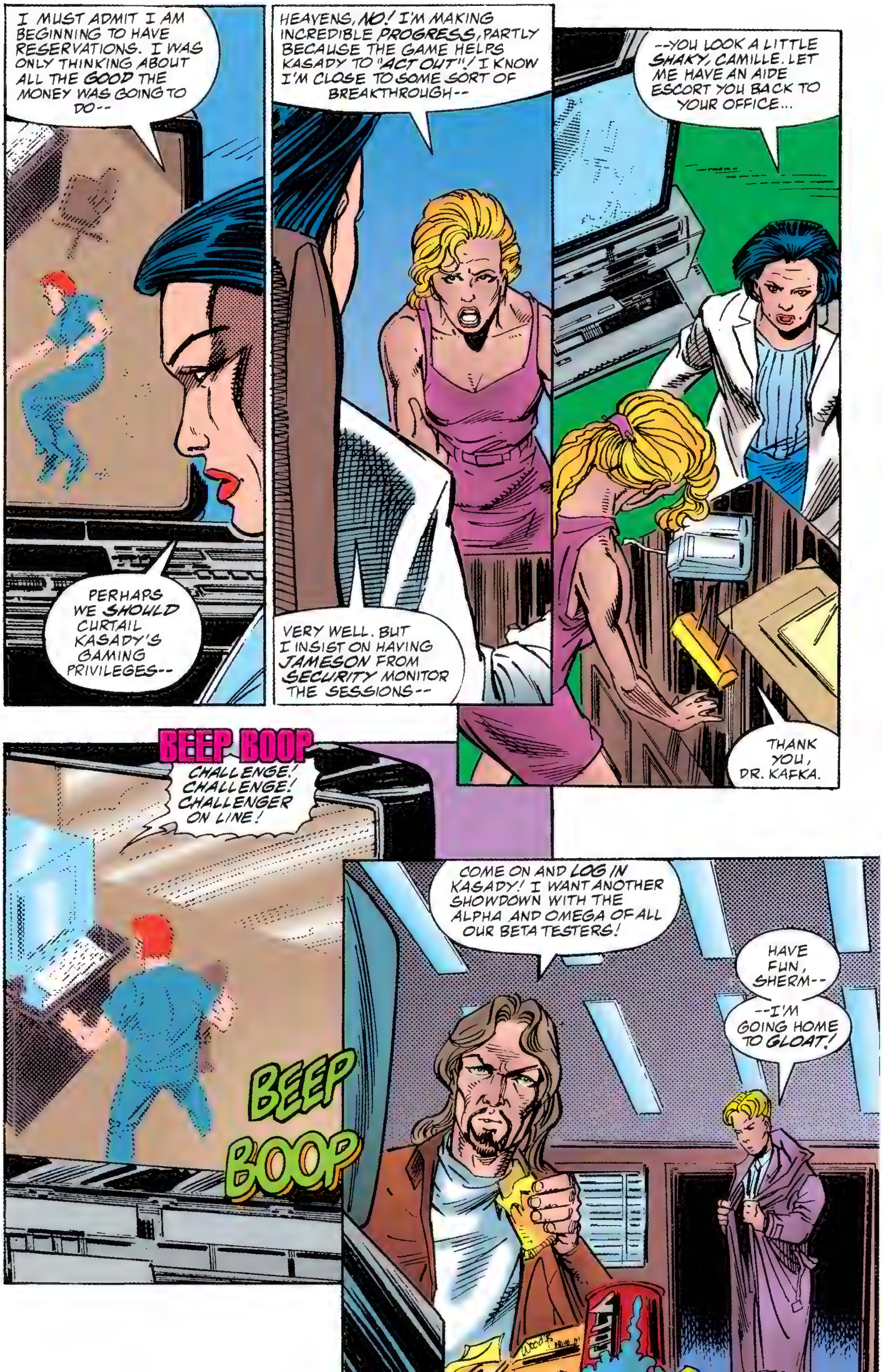

...MAKING THAT DEAL WITH THE COMPANY WAS QUITE A *COUP,* DR. KAFKA--
BRILLIANT, REALLY.
KASADY CANNOT LEGALLY PROFIT FROM HIS CRIMES, BUT IT *IS* POSSIBLE TO SET UP A TRUST THAT CAN COLLECT ROYALTIES AND DISPENSE THEM TO VICTIMS--
--*OR* TO ACCREDITED INSTITUTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF REHABILITATION.
THE MONEY WILL BE PUT TO GOOD USE HERE. THE UPKEEP ON THESE SPECIAL CELLS IS EGREGIOUS.
DO I DETECT A NOTE OF DISAPPROVAL, PAZZO?
IS IT REALLY WISE TO ALLOW KASADY TO HAVE A COMPUTER? ESPECIALLY ONE THAT'S CONNECTED TO A *NETWORK?*
IT WAS HIS ONE DEMAND IN EXCHANGE FOR SIGNING AWAY THE RIGHTS--
THERE ARE BAFFLES AND BLOCKS. IT IS *IMPOSSIBLE* FOR HIM TO ACCESS ANY COMPUTER OTHER THAN A SPECIALLY SHIELDED ONE AT THE COMPUTER GAME COMPANY.
I THINK YOU ARE SERIOUSLY UNDERESTIMATING HIM AND HIS *OTHER.*
WOULD YOU PREFER TO HAVE THE COMPUTER SHUT DOWN DURING YOUR INTERVIEWS WITH KASADY?
NO. IT HELPS TO BREAK DOWN HIS BARRIERS. I'M BEGINNING TO FIND OUT WHAT MAKES HIM TICK--
GOD HELP YOU, DR. PAZZO.

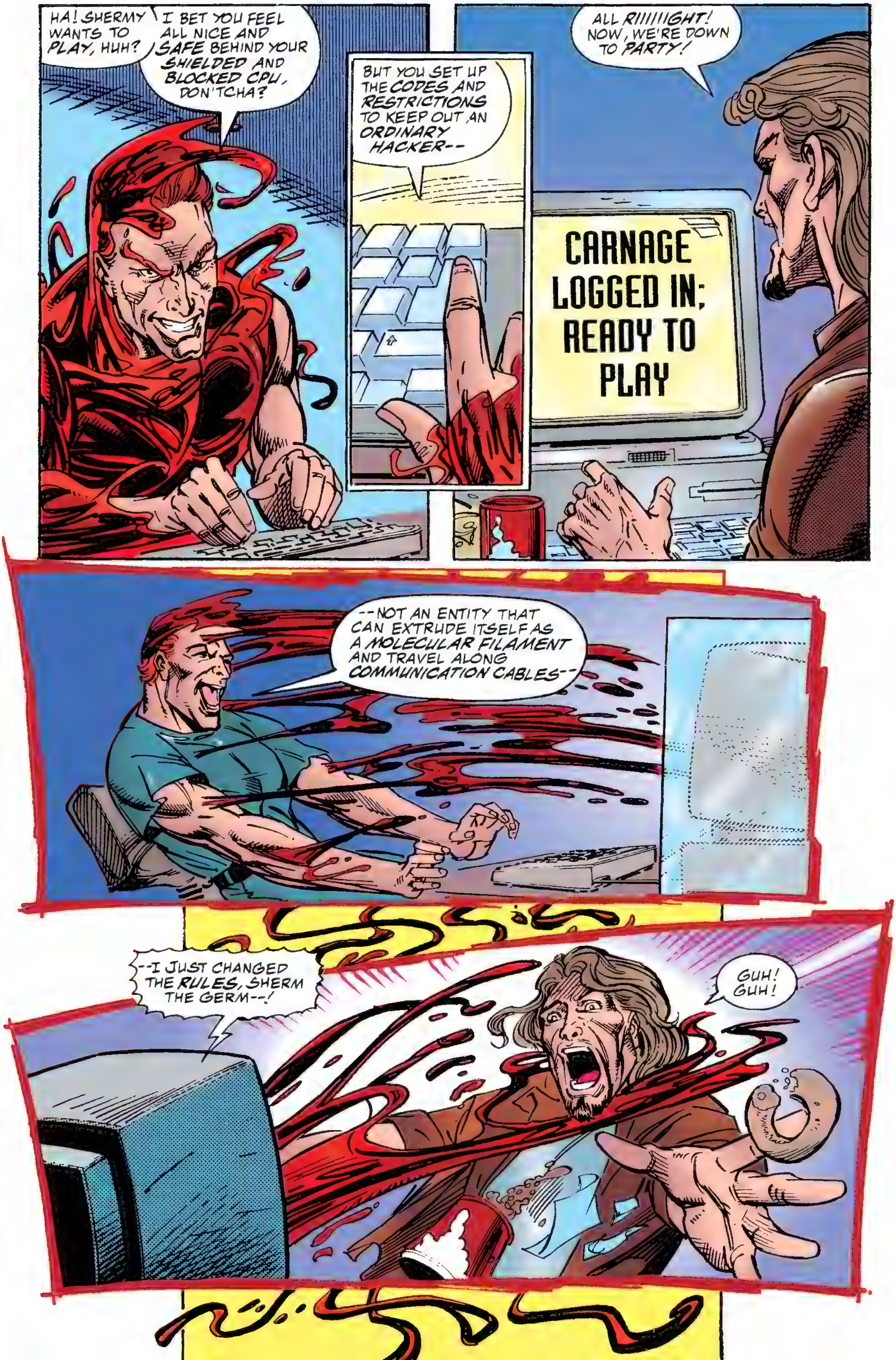

♫ THE SUN'S COMING UP LIKE A BIG BALL OF YELLOW, IT'S WARMING MY ELBOWS, IMPROVING MY MELLOW-- ♪
IT'S TOO *EARLY* TO BE SO HAPPY, KIRSTIN.
THE REST OF HUMANITY REALLY HAS IT IN FOR DIEHARD POLLYANNAS LIKE YOU, YOU KNOW THAT?
LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO BE SAD, MR. BLOCK!
LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO WASTE ANY OF IT BEING ANGRY OR FEELING MEAN! LIFE IS TOO SHORT NOT TO BE *HONEST* WITH THE WORLD-- FREDDY? WAS THAT YOUR FIRST NAME?
UH, YEAH. RIGHT. FREDDY. FREDDY BLOCK.
THERE USED TO BE A LOT OF MEANNESS IN MY LIFE UNTIL I DISCOVERED *POETRY* AND THAT'S HOW I MET *CLIVE*...
I STARTED CORRESPONDING WITH HIM THROUGH A POETRY JOURNAL. ISN'T HE *CUTE*? HE IS MY TRUE SOUL MATE. I'M ON MY WAY TO MEET HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME. HE LIVES IN THE *EAST VILLAGE* AND HE JUST GOT *PUBLISHED* IN *"SENSITIVE SKIN"*!
THE SKEEVY LITTLE SLIME-BUCKET DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO COVER UP HIS SCABBED-OVER TRACK MARKS.
HOW DO I TELL LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE HERE THAT HER SOUL MATE IS A *STONE* JUNKIE?

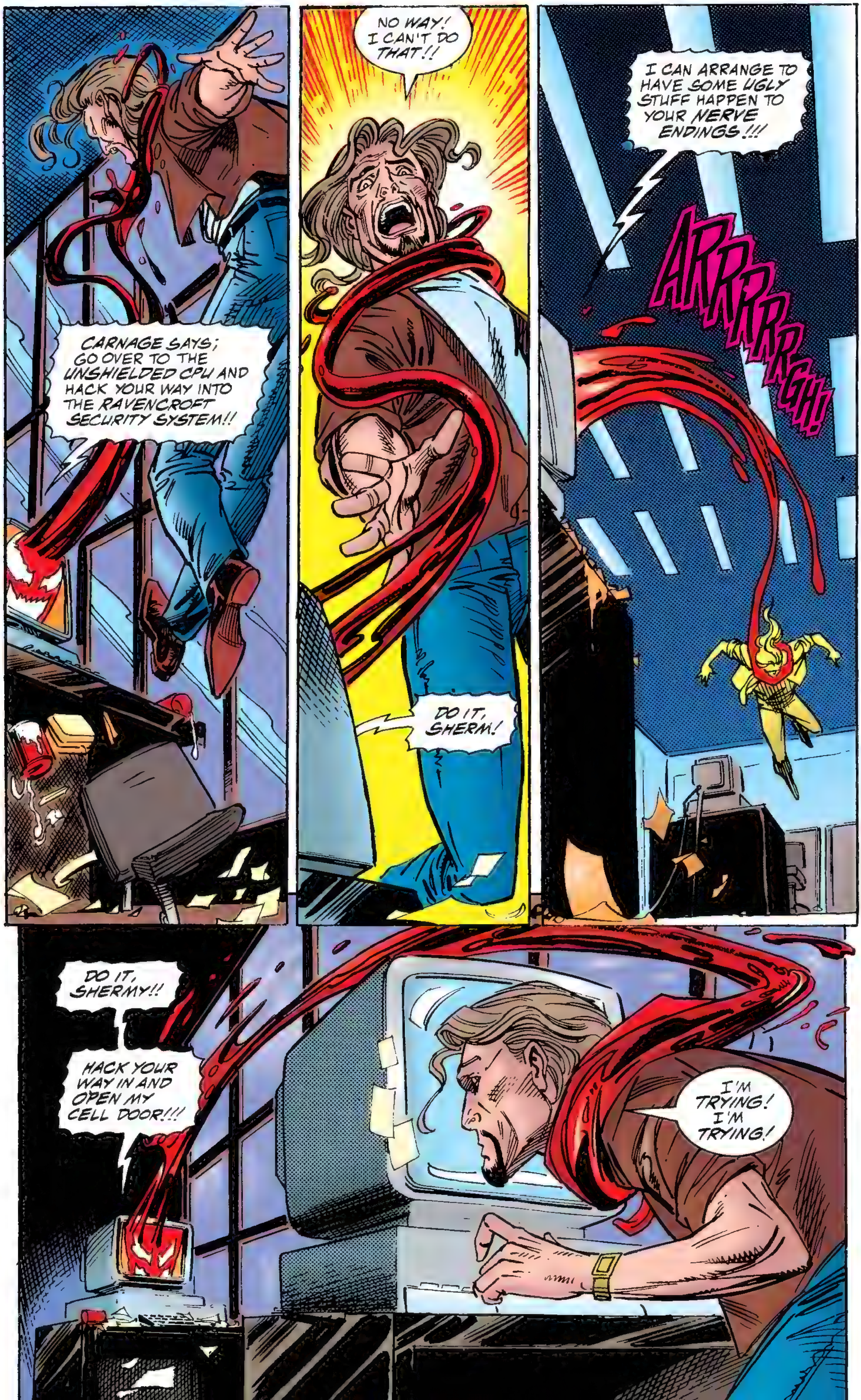

HOW DID YOUR MOTHER REACT TO YOUR KILL--UH, THE ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF HER DOG?
SHE LOST IT, DOC. WENT BALLISTIC...
BASH! BOOP! BOP! BOP!
BRUISE MY KNUCKLES WITH YOUR FACE, WEB-SLINGER! HA HA!
BOOSH!
...SHE REALLY WAS MISSING A FEW CHAIRS FROM HER DINETTE SET, YOU KNOW...
CLEEEETUS!!! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE????
"SHE WAS ALWAYS TRYING TO ATTACH THE BLAME FOR THE THINGS THAT WENT WRONG IN HER LIFE TO SOMEBODY ELSE!
"SHE HAD TOO MANY DEVILS RUNNING AROUND INSIDE HER BRAIN...
THWOP
OWWWW!
"...AND SHE NEEDED SOME WAY TO LET THEM OUT!
NRRRRR
NOOOOO!

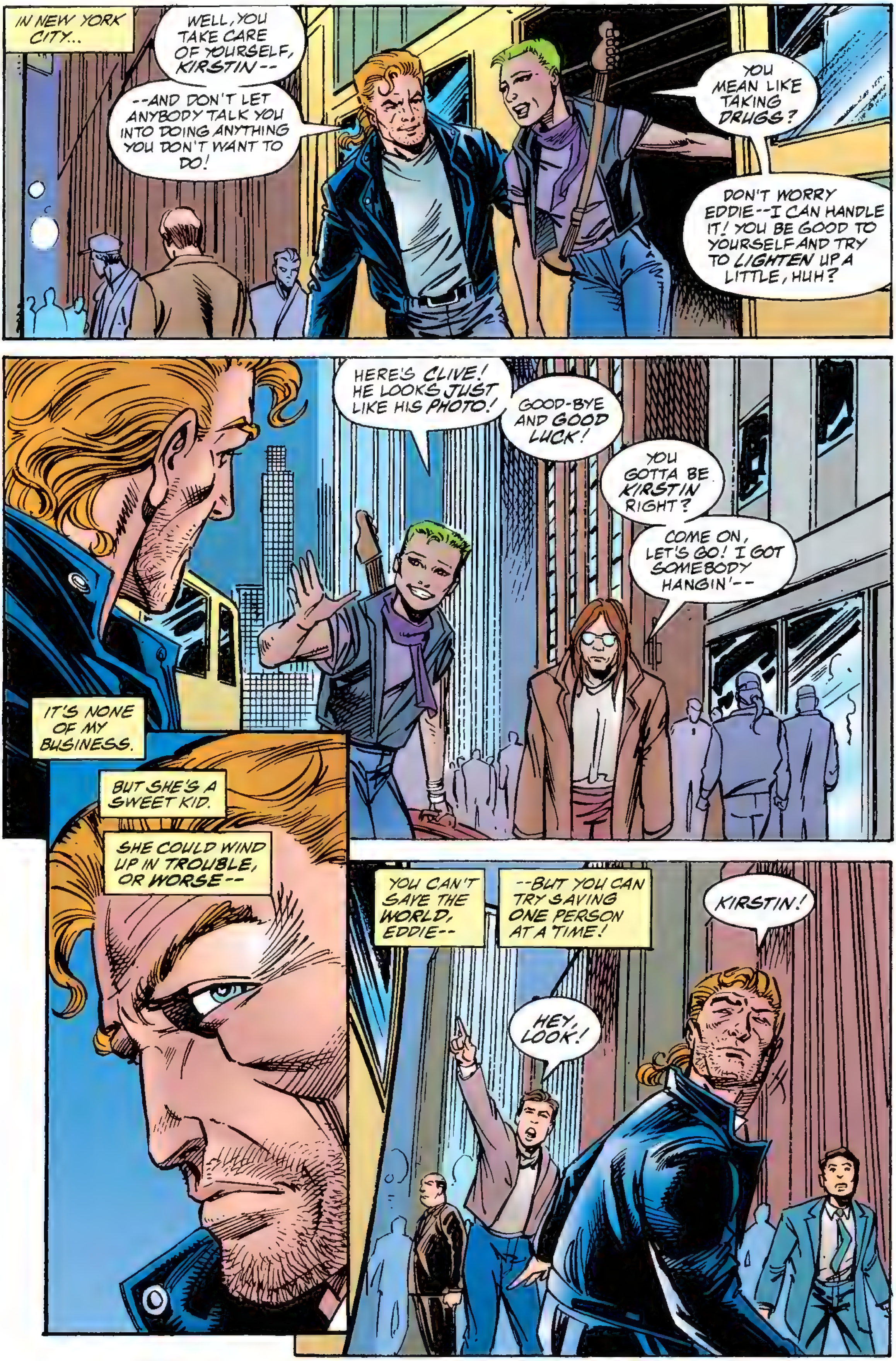

"I THINK SHE WAS STILL UPSET WITH ME ABOUT THE TIME I DROPPED THE TV INTO THE TUB WHILE SHE WAS TAKING A BATH.
"WHAT WAS THE BIG DEAL...?
YOU LITTLE MONSTER!!
"...SHE MANAGED TO PULL THE PLUG OUT IN TIME!
WHAT THE--
"LUCKY FOR ME, DAD CAME HOME WHEN HE DID...
"...HE SURE WAS SURPRISED WHEN I TOLD THE COPS THAT HE KILLED MOM FOR NO REASON AT ALL--"
--YOU SHOULD HAVE HEARD HIM SCREAMING AT ME ALL DURING THE TRIAL!
HOW DID YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT?
FEEL?
I FELT PUMPED!!!
I FELT LIKE A THOUSAND TONS OF TNT!
I FELT LIKE A RED HOT POKER IN THE FURNACE OF HATE!!!

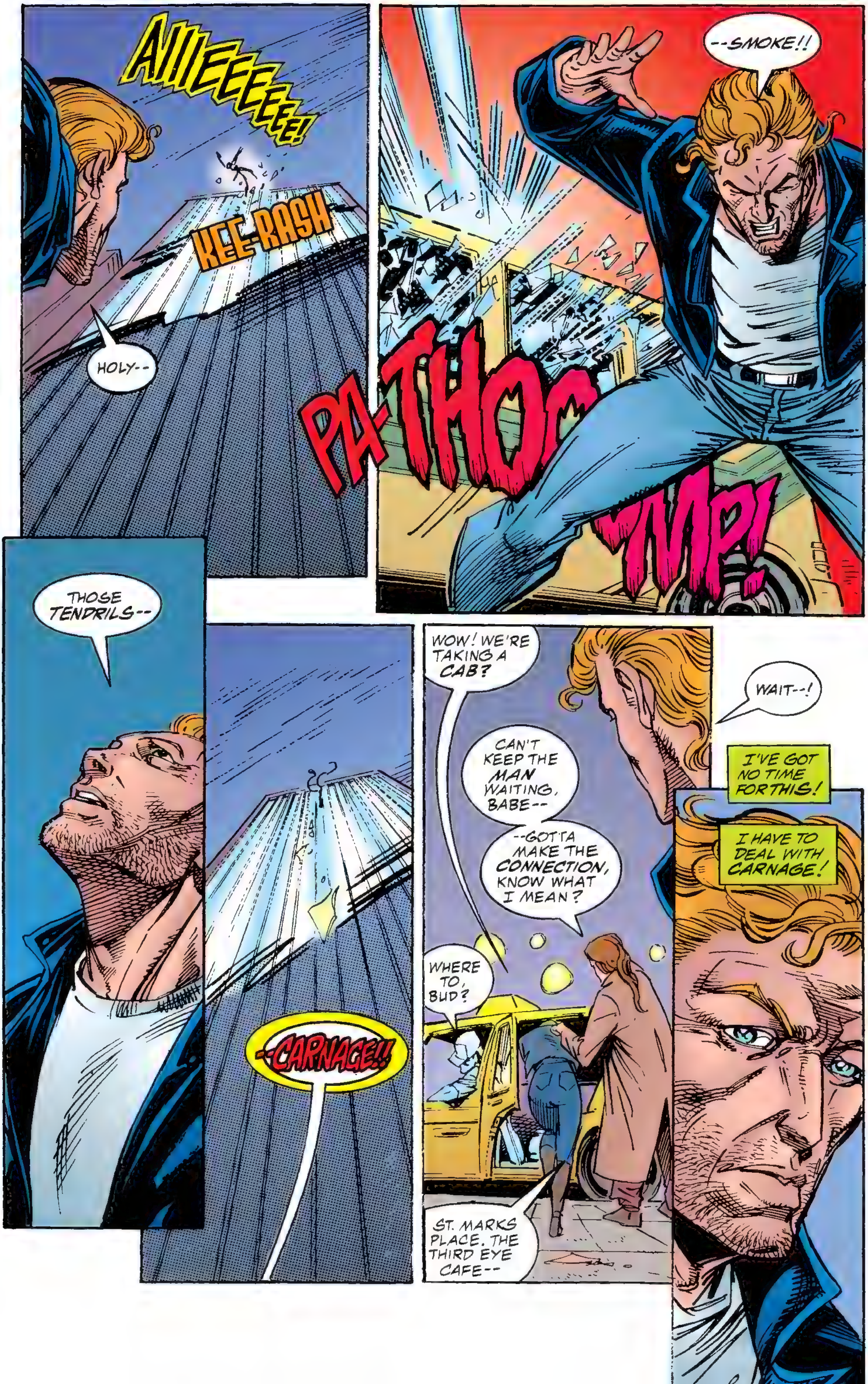

KAFKA! HIT THE MICROWAVE SHIELDS!
SSSRRREEEEE
EEEEYOWW!!
TURN OFF THE HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTOR, DR. KAFKA...!
...THAT WAS QUITE DISTURBING.
PROJECTING YOURSELF IN A VIRTUAL FIELD INTO HIS CELL HAS ITS DRAWBACKS, CAMILLE...
...IT'S VERY EASY TO FORGET THAT YOU'RE NOT REALLY IN THERE WITH HIM!
CLICK

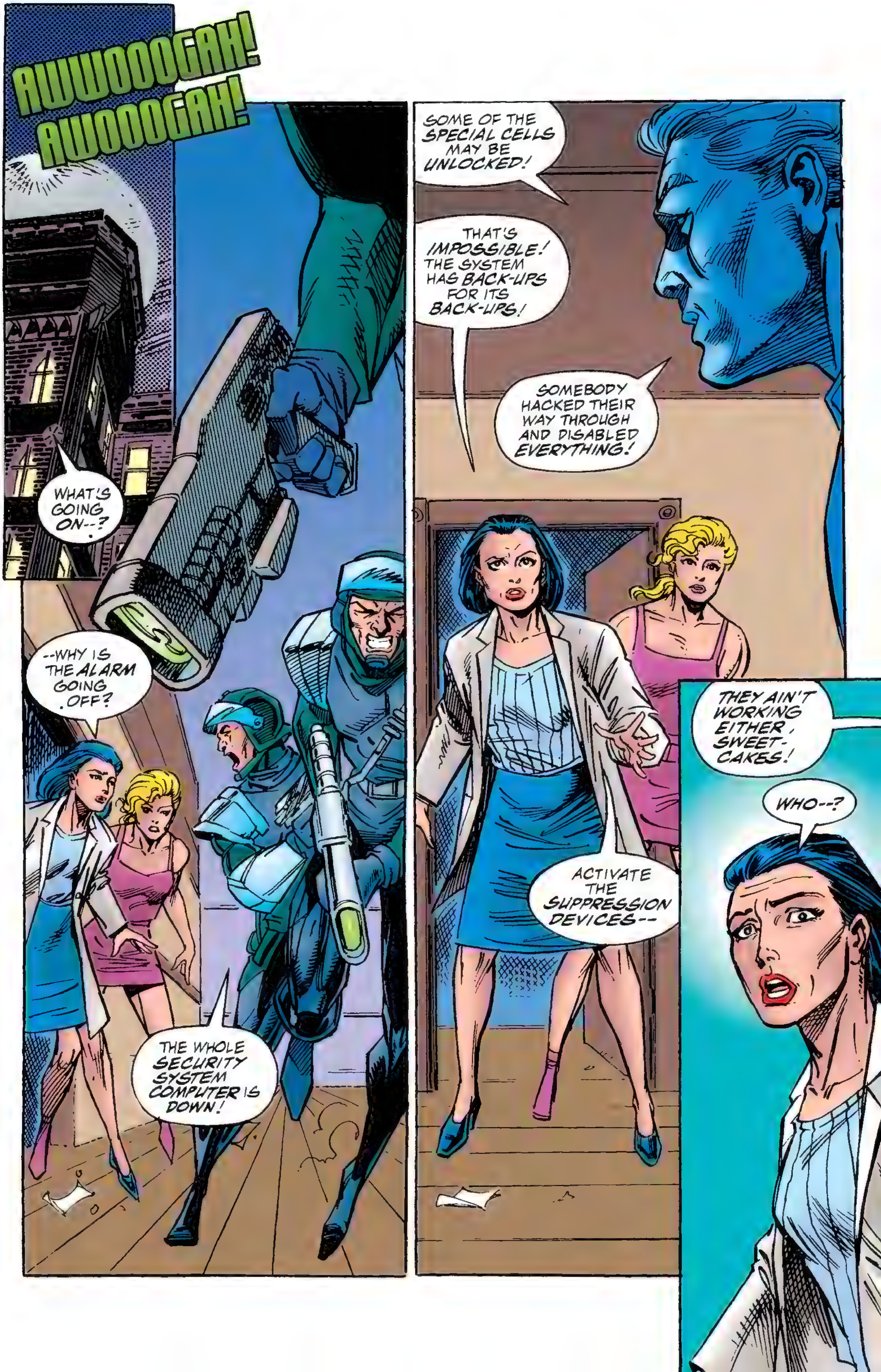

I MUST ADMIT I AM BEGINNING TO HAVE RESERVATIONS. I WAS ONLY THINKING ABOUT ALL THE GOOD THE MONEY WAS GOING TO DO--
PERHAPS WE SHOULD CURTAIL KASADY'S GAMING PRIVILEGES--
HEAVENS, NO! I'M MAKING INCREDIBLE PROGRESS, PARTLY BECAUSE THE GAME HELPS KASADY TO "ACT OUT"! I KNOW I'M CLOSE TO SOME SORT OF BREAKTHROUGH--
VERY WELL. BUT I INSIST ON HAVING JAMESON FROM SECURITY MONITOR THE SESSIONS--
--YOU LOOK A LITTLE SHAKY, CAMILLE. LET ME HAVE AN AIDE ESCORT YOU BACK TO YOUR OFFICE...
THANK YOU, DR. KAFKA.
BEEP BOOP
CHALLENGE! CHALLENGE! CHALLENGER ON LINE!
BEEP BOOP
COME ON AND LOG IN KASADY! I WANT ANOTHER SHOWDOWN WITH THE ALPHA AND OMEGA OF ALL OUR BETA TESTERS!
HAVE FUN, SHERM--
--I'M GOING HOME TO GLOAT!

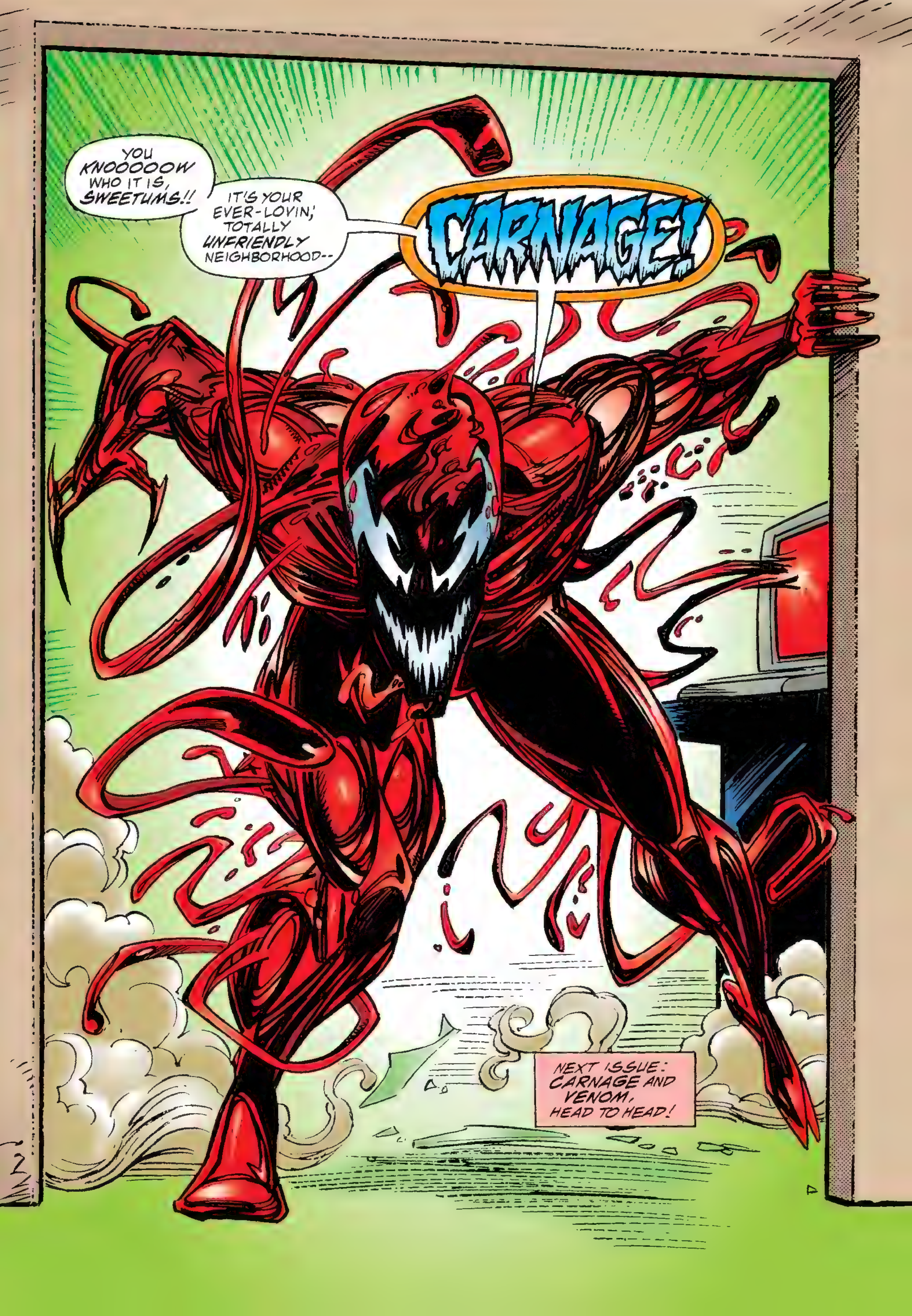

HA! SHERMY WANTS TO *PLAY*, HUH?
I BET YOU FEEL ALL NICE AND *SAFE* BEHIND YOUR *SHIELDED* AND *BLOCKED CPU*, DON'TCHA?
BUT YOU SET UP THE *CODES* AND *RESTRICTIONS* TO KEEP OUT AN *ORDINARY HACKER*--
ALL *RIIIIIGHT!* NOW, WE'RE DOWN TO *PARTY!*
CARNAGE LOGGED IN; READY TO PLAY
--NOT AN ENTITY THAT CAN EXTRUDE ITSELF AS A *MOLECULAR FILAMENT* AND TRAVEL ALONG *COMMUNICATION CABLES*--
--I JUST CHANGED THE *RULES*, SHERM THE GERM--!
GUH! GUH!


CARNAGE SAYS; GO OVER TO THE UNSHIELDED CPU AND HACK YOUR WAY INTO THE RAVENCROFT SECURITY SYSTEM!!
NO WAY! I CAN'T DO THAT!!
DO IT, SHERM!
I CAN ARRANGE TO HAVE SOME UGLY STUFF HAPPEN TO YOUR NERVE ENDINGS!!!
ARRRRRGH!
DO IT, SHERMY!!
HACK YOUR WAY IN AND OPEN MY CELL DOOR!!!
I'M TRYING! I'M TRYING!

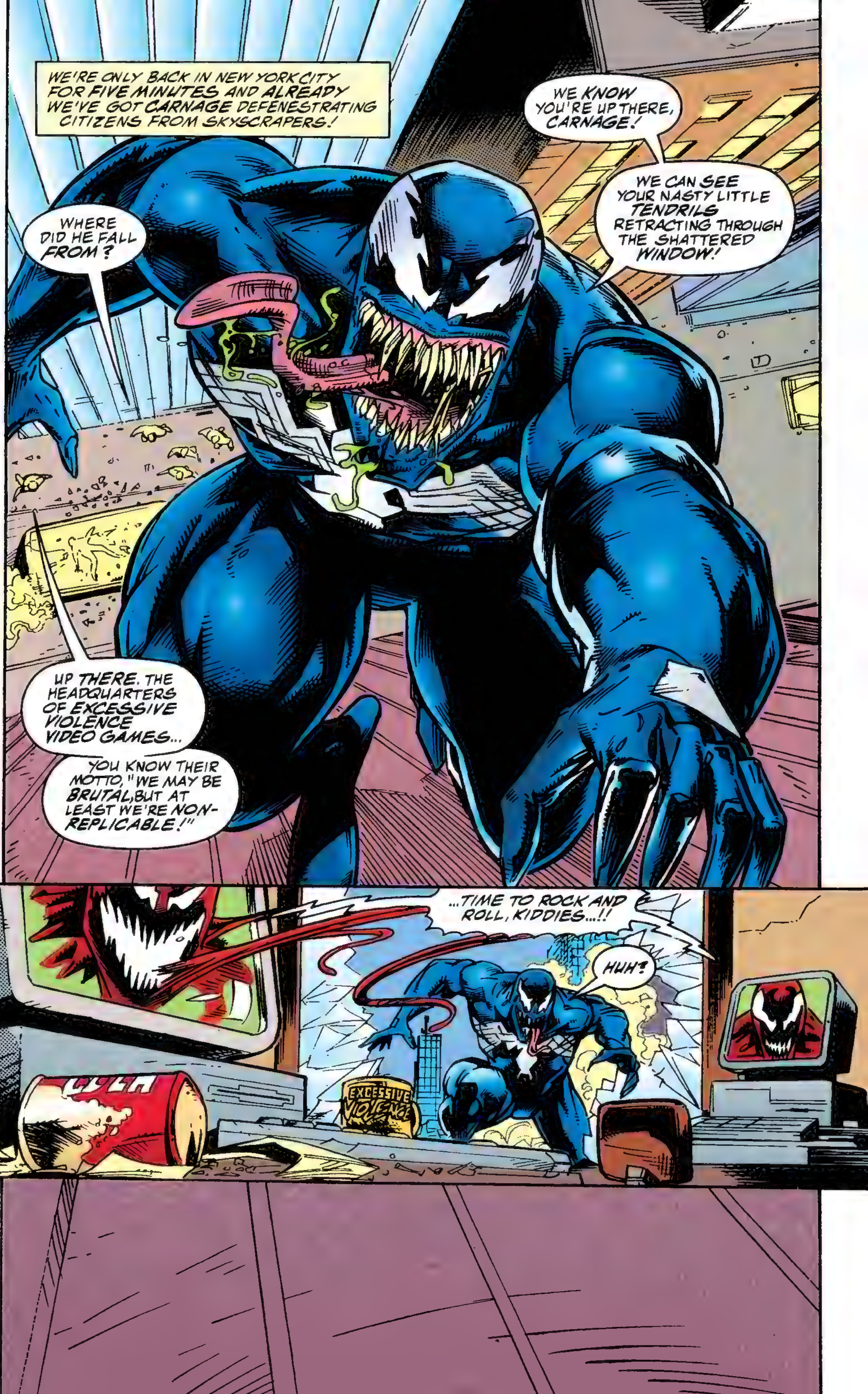

IN NEW YORK CITY...
WELL, YOU TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, KIRSTIN--
--AND DON'T LET ANYBODY TALK YOU INTO DOING ANYTHING YOU DON'T WANT TO DO!
YOU MEAN LIKE TAKING DRUGS?
DON'T WORRY EDDIE--I CAN HANDLE IT! YOU BE GOOD TO YOURSELF AND TRY TO LIGHTEN UP A LITTLE, HUH?
HERE'S CLIVE! HE LOOKS JUST LIKE HIS PHOTO!
GOOD-BYE AND GOOD LUCK!
YOU GOTTA BE KIRSTIN RIGHT?
COME ON, LET'S GO! I GOT SOMEBODY HANGIN'--
IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS.
BUT SHE'S A SWEET KID.
SHE COULD WIND UP IN TROUBLE, OR WORSE--
YOU CAN'T SAVE THE WORLD, EDDIE--
--BUT YOU CAN TRY SAVING ONE PERSON AT A TIME!
KIRSTIN!
HEY, LOOK!

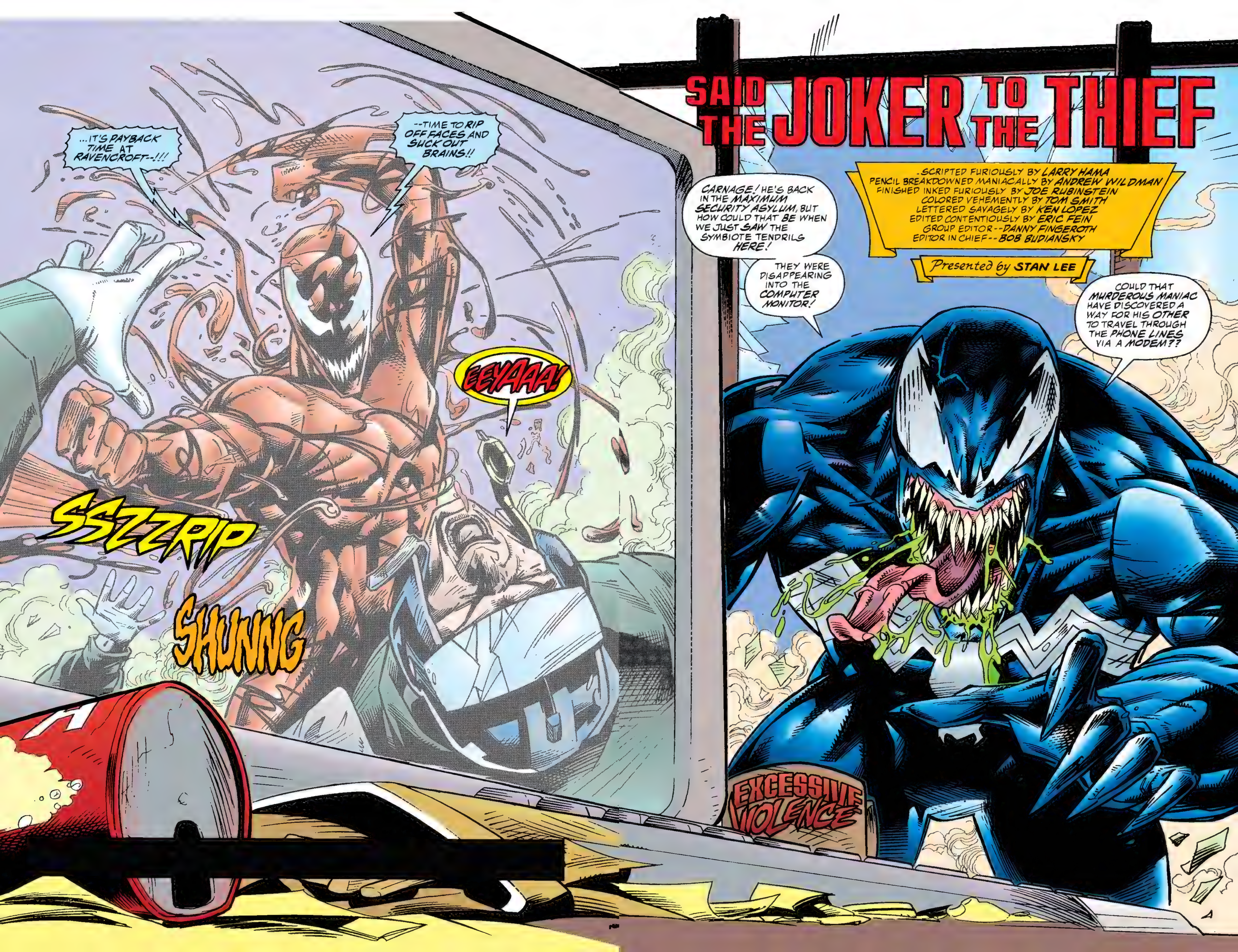

AIIEEEEEEE!
KEE-RASH
HOLY--
--SMOKE!!
PA-THOOMP!
THOSE TENDRILS--
--CARNAGE!!
WOW! WE'RE TAKING A CAB?
CAN'T KEEP THE MAN WAITING, BABE--
--GOTTA MAKE THE CONNECTION, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
WHERE TO, BUD?
ST. MARKS PLACE. THE THIRD EYE CAFE--
WAIT--!
I'VE GOT NO TIME FOR THIS!
I HAVE TO DEAL WITH CARNAGE!


AWWOOOGAH! AWWOOOGAH!
WHAT'S GOING ON--?
--WHY IS THE ALARM GOING OFF?
THE WHOLE SECURITY SYSTEM COMPUTER IS DOWN!
SOME OF THE SPECIAL CELLS MAY BE UNLOCKED!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THE SYSTEM HAS BACK-UPS FOR ITS BACK-UPS!
SOMEBODY HACKED THEIR WAY THROUGH AND DISABLED EVERYTHING!
ACTIVATE THE SUPPRESSION DEVICES--
THEY AIN'T WORKING EITHER, SWEET-CAKES!
WHO--?


YOU KNOOOOOW WHO IT IS, SWEETUMS!!
IT'S YOUR EVER-LOVIN', TOTALLY UNFRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD--
CARNAGE!
NEXT ISSUE: CARNAGE AND VENOM, HEAD TO HEAD!

MARVEL COMICS
VENOM
2
MAY
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
CARNAGE UNLEASHED
PART TWO OF FOUR


WE'RE ONLY BACK IN NEW YORK CITY FOR FIVE MINUTES AND ALREADY WE'VE GOT CARNAGE DEFENESTRATING CITIZENS FROM SKYSCRAPERS!
WHERE DID HE FALL FROM?
WE KNOW YOU'RE UP THERE, CARNAGE!
WE CAN SEE YOUR NASTY LITTLE TENDRILS RETRACTING THROUGH THE SHATTERED WINDOW!
UP THERE. THE HEADQUARTERS OF EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE VIDEO GAMES...
YOU KNOW THEIR MOTTO, "WE MAY BE BRUTAL, BUT AT LEAST WE'RE NON-REPLICABLE!"
...TIME TO ROCK AND ROLL, KIDDIES...!!
HUH?
EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE
COLA

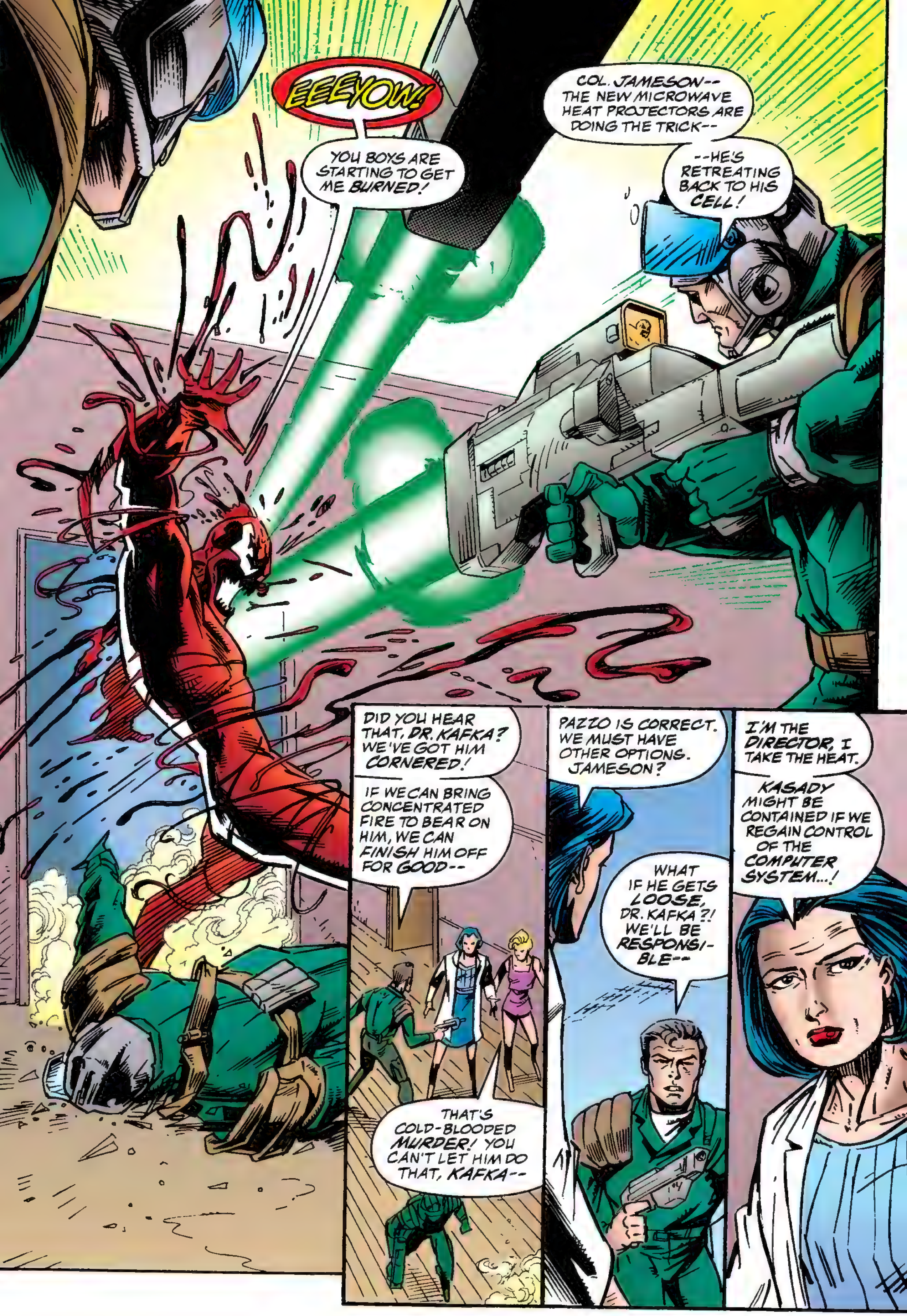


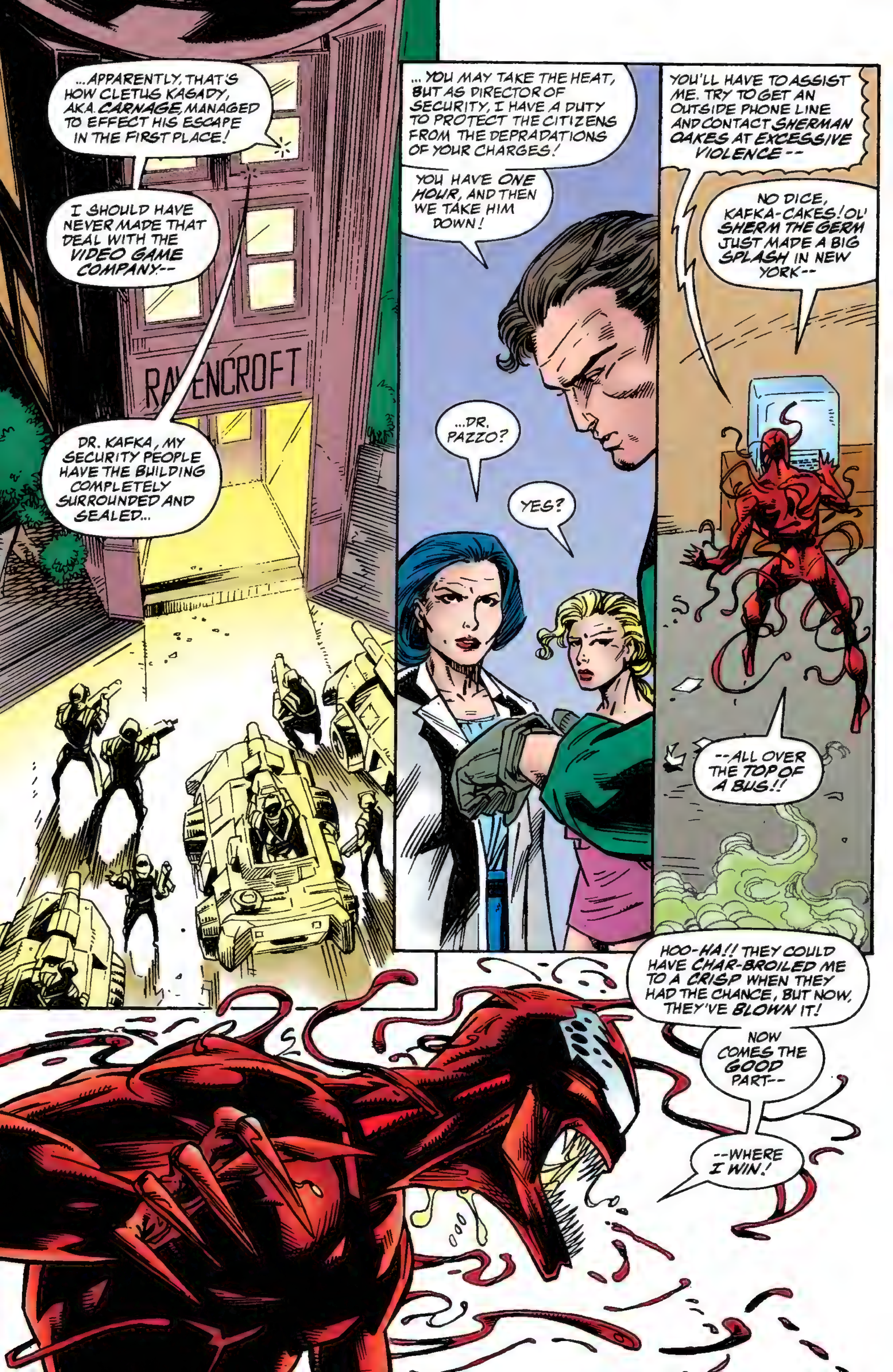
SAID THE JOKER TO THE THIEF

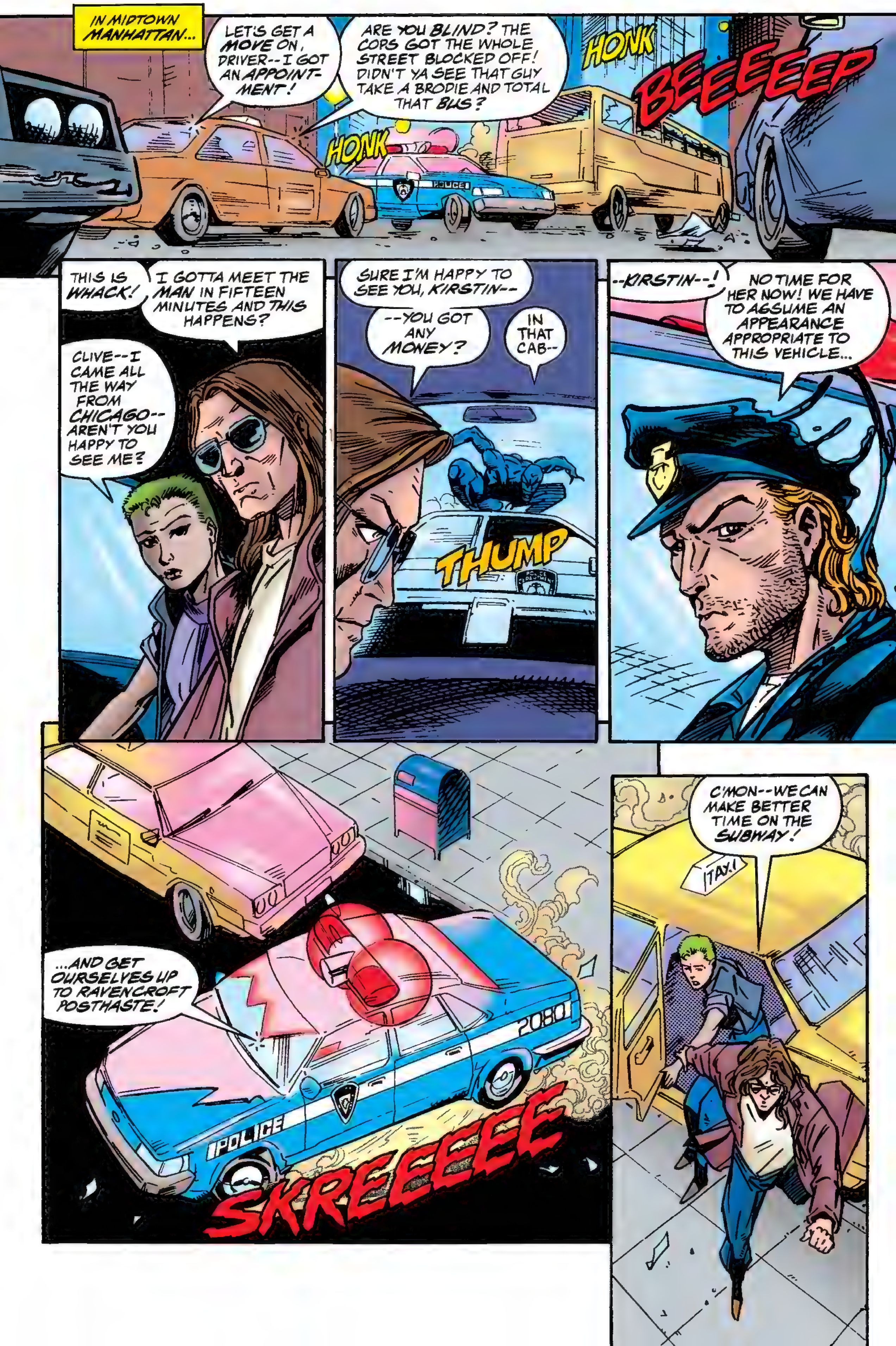
SCRIPTED FURIOUSLY BY LARRY HAMA
PENCIL BREAKDOWNED MANIACALLY BY ANDREW WILDMAN
FINISHED INKED FURIOUSLY BY JOE RUBINSTEIN
COLORED VEHEMENTLY BY TOM SMITH
LETTERED SAVAGELY BY KEN LOPEZ
EDITED CONTENTIOUSLY BY ERIC FEIN
GROUP EDITOR--DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR IN CHIEF--BOB BUDIANSKY

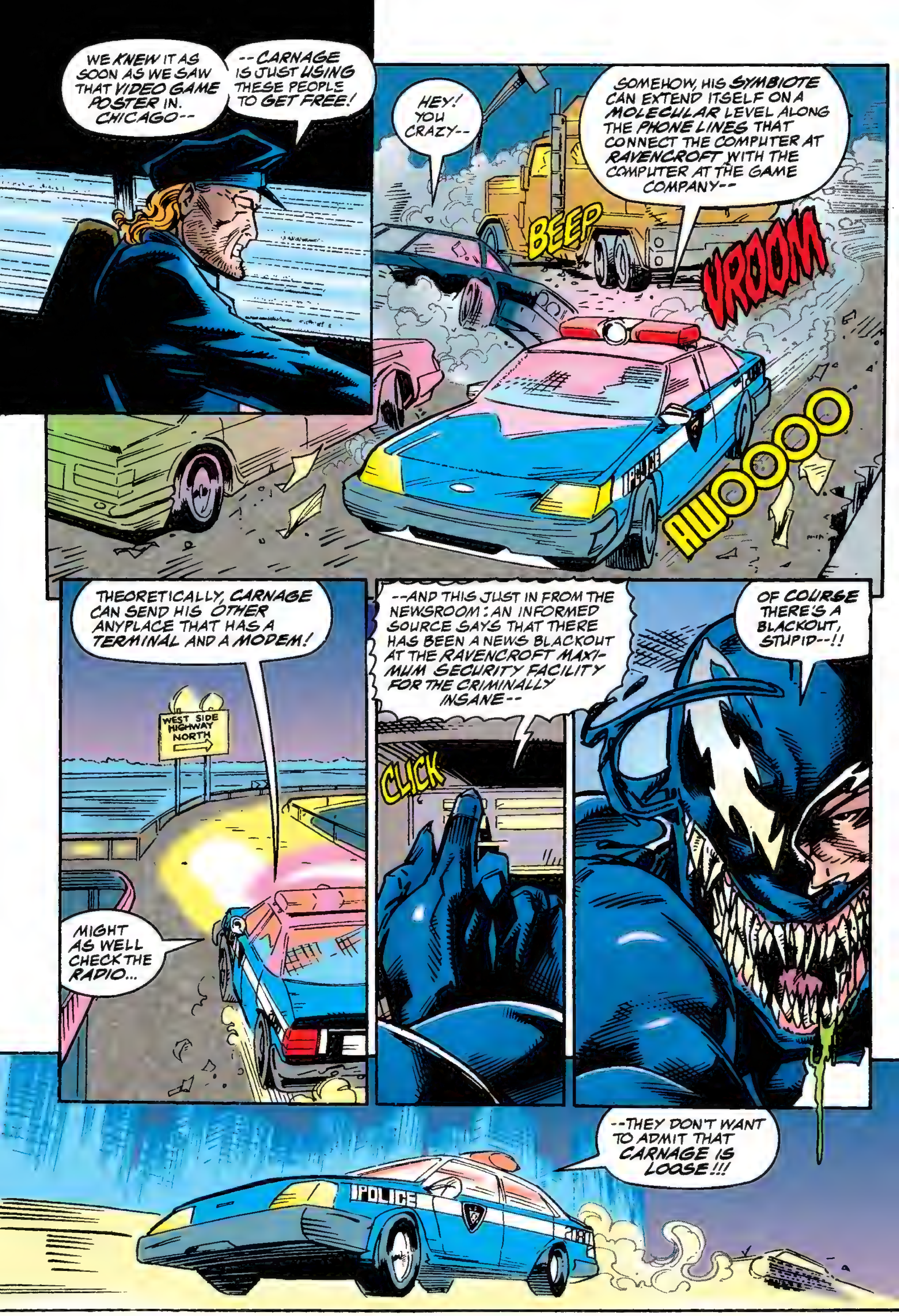
Presented by STAN LEE

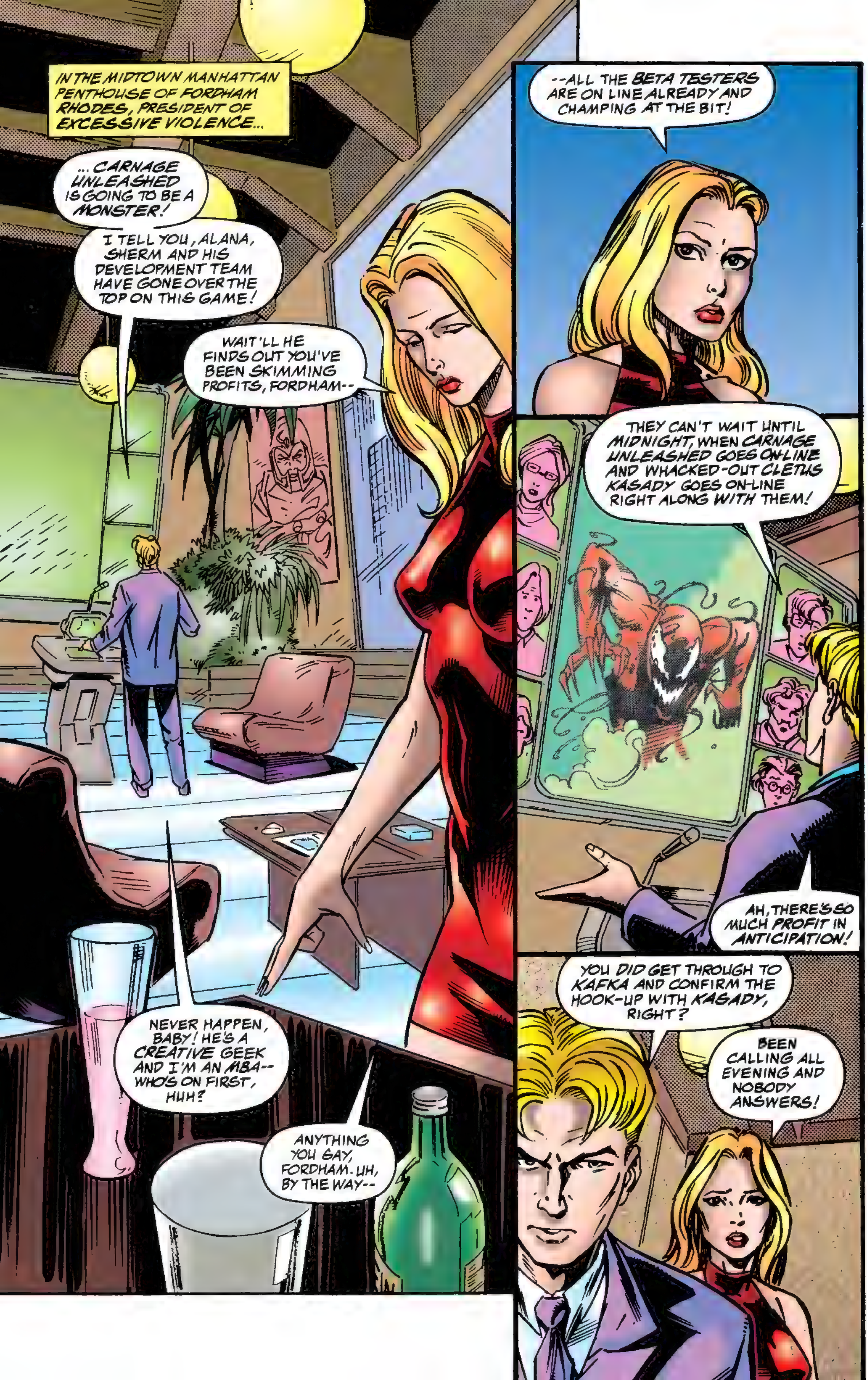
...IT'S PAYBACK TIME AT RAVENCROFT--!!!
--TIME TO RIP OFF FACES AND SUCK OUT BRAINS!!
EEYAAA!
SSZZRIP
SHUNNG
CARNAGE! HE'S BACK IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY ASYLUM, BUT HOW COULD THAT BE WHEN WE JUST SAW THE SYMBIOTE TENDRILS HERE!
THEY WERE DISAPPEARING INTO THE COMPUTER MONITOR!
COULD THAT MURDEROUS MANIAC HAVE DISCOVERED A WAY FOR HIS OTHER TO TRAVEL THROUGH THE PHONE LINES VIA A MODEM??
EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE

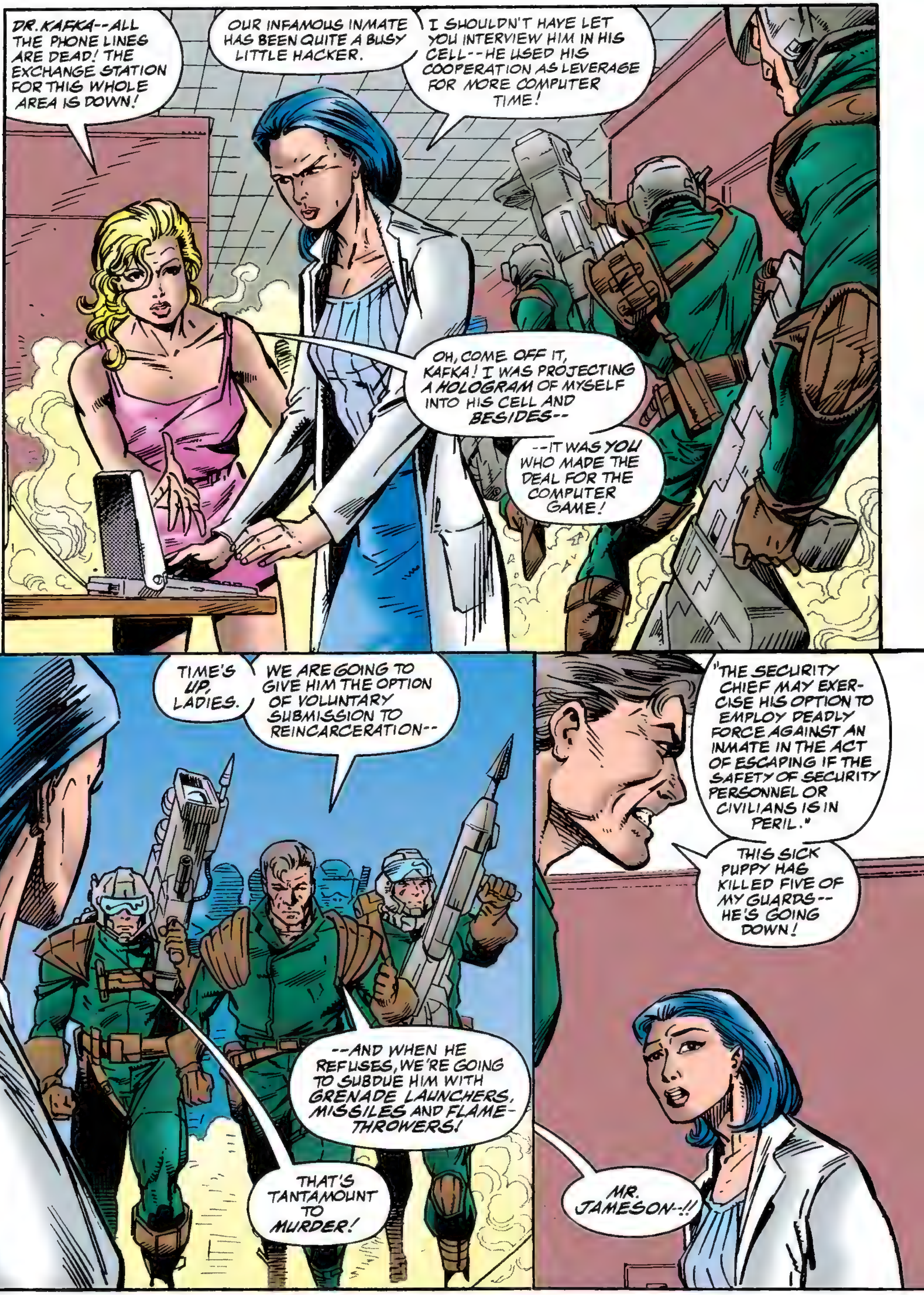

EEEYOW!
YOU BOYS ARE STARTING TO GET ME *BURNED!*
COL. JAMESON-- THE NEW MICROWAVE HEAT PROJECTORS ARE DOING THE TRICK--
--HE'S RETREATING BACK TO HIS *CELL!*
DID YOU HEAR THAT, *DR. KAFKA?* WE'VE GOT HIM *CORNERED!*
IF WE CAN BRING CONCENTRATED FIRE TO BEAR ON HIM, WE CAN *FINISH* HIM OFF FOR *GOOD*--
THAT'S COLD-BLOODED *MURDER!* YOU CAN'T LET HIM DO THAT, *KAFKA*--
PAZZO IS CORRECT. WE MUST HAVE OTHER OPTIONS. JAMESON?
WHAT IF HE GETS *LOOSE,* DR. KAFKA?! WE'LL BE *RESPONSIBLE*--
I'M THE *DIRECTOR,* I TAKE THE HEAT.
KASADY MIGHT BE CONTAINED IF WE REGAIN CONTROL OF THE *COMPUTER SYSTEM...!*

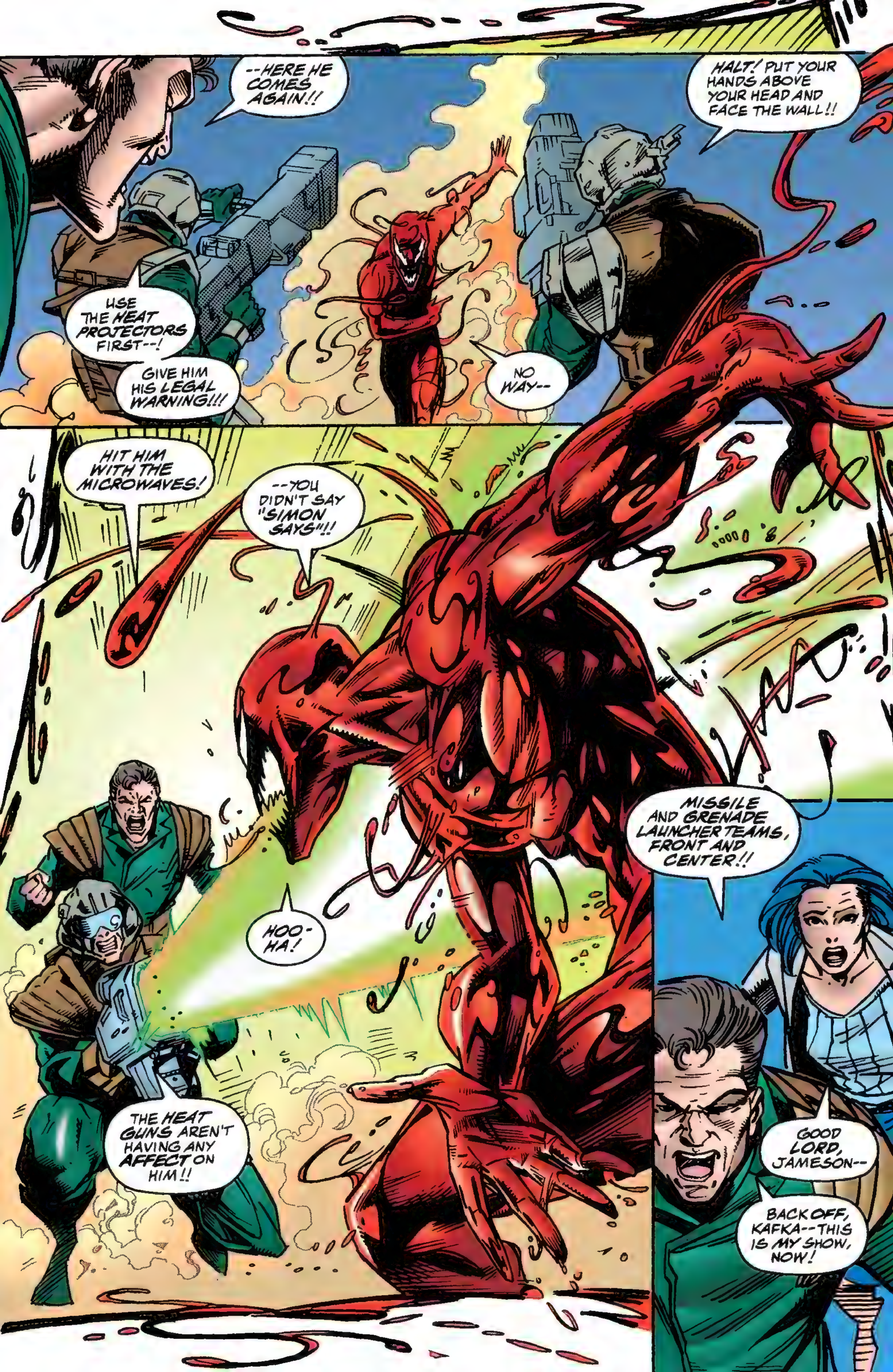

...APPARENTLY, THAT'S HOW CLETUS KASADY, AKA. CARNAGE, MANAGED TO EFFECT HIS ESCAPE IN THE FIRST PLACE!
I SHOULD HAVE NEVER MADE THAT DEAL WITH THE VIDEO GAME COMPANY--
RAVENCROFT
DR. KAFKA, MY SECURITY PEOPLE HAVE THE BUILDING COMPLETELY SURROUNDED AND SEALED...
...YOU MAY TAKE THE HEAT, BUT AS DIRECTOR OF SECURITY, I HAVE A DUTY TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS FROM THE DEPRADATIONS OF YOUR CHARGES!
YOU HAVE ONE HOUR, AND THEN WE TAKE HIM DOWN!
...DR. PAZZO?
YES?
YOU'LL HAVE TO ASSIST ME. TRY TO GET AN OUTSIDE PHONE LINE AND CONTACT SHERMAN OAKES AT EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE--
NO DICE, KAFKA-CAKES! OL' SHERM THE GERM JUST MADE A BIG SPLASH IN NEW YORK--
--ALL OVER THE TOP OF A BUS!!
HOO-HA!! THEY COULD HAVE CHAR-BROILED ME TO A CRISP WHEN THEY HAD THE CHANCE, BUT NOW, THEY'VE BLOWN IT!
NOW COMES THE GOOD PART--
--WHERE I WIN!

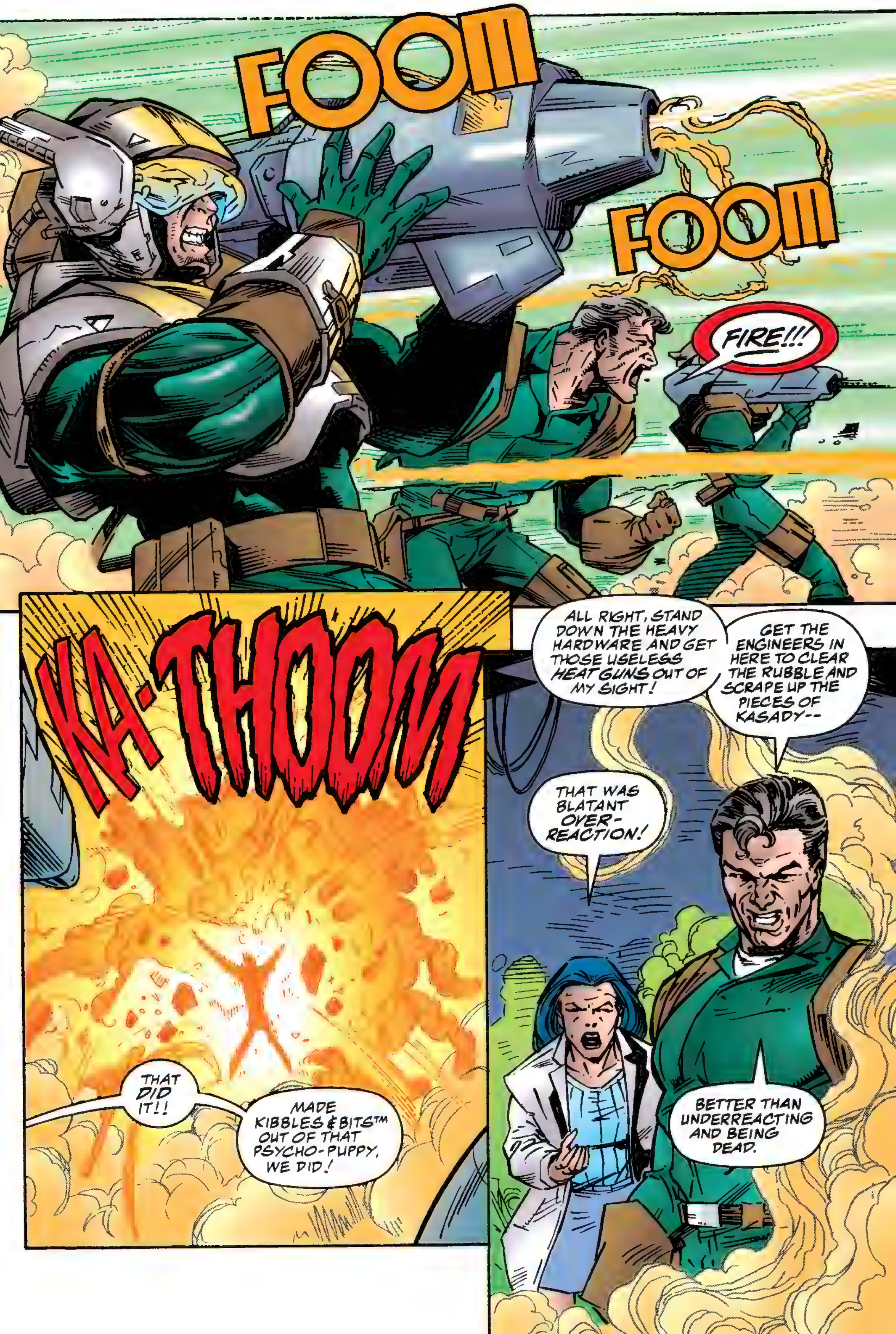

IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN...
LET'S GET A MOVE ON, DRIVER--I GOT AN APPOINTMENT!
ARE YOU BLIND? THE COPS GOT THE WHOLE STREET BLOCKED OFF! DIDN'T YA SEE THAT GUY TAKE A BRODIE AND TOTAL THAT BUS?
HONK
HONK
BEEEEEP
POLICE
THIS IS WHACK!
I GOTTA MEET THE MAN IN FIFTEEN MINUTES AND THIS HAPPENS?
CLIVE--I CAME ALL THE WAY FROM CHICAGO--AREN'T YOU HAPPY TO SEE ME?
SURE I'M HAPPY TO SEE YOU, KIRSTIN--
--YOU GOT ANY MONEY?
IN THAT CAB--
THUMP
--KIRSTIN--!
NO TIME FOR HER NOW! WE HAVE TO ASSUME AN APPEARANCE APPROPRIATE TO THIS VEHICLE...
...AND GET OURSELVES UP TO RAVENCROFT POSTHASTE!
2080
POLICE
SKREEEEEE
C'MON--WE CAN MAKE BETTER TIME ON THE SUBWAY!
TAXI

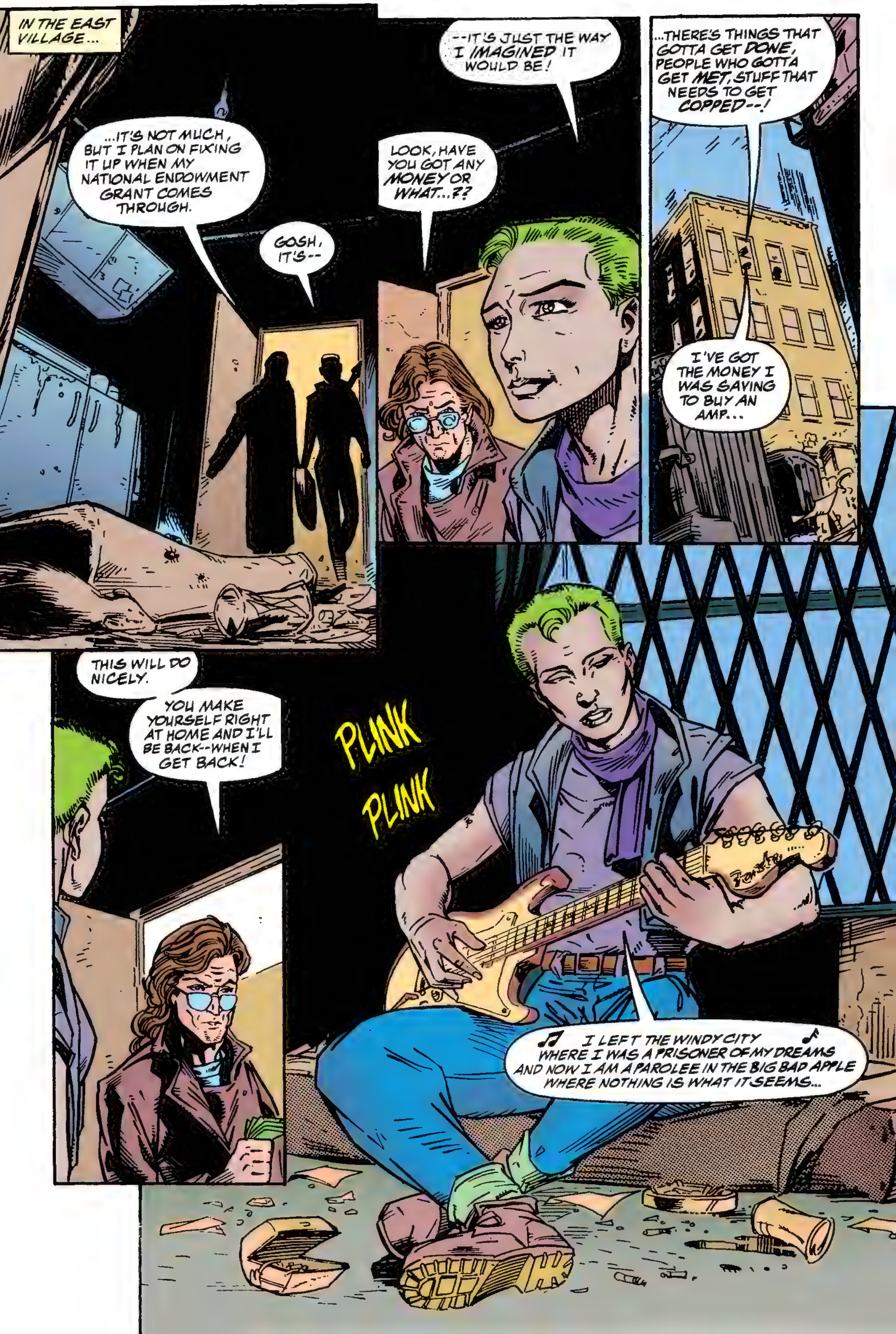

WE KNEW IT AS SOON AS WE SAW THAT VIDEO GAME POSTER IN CHICAGO--
--CARNAGE IS JUST USING THESE PEOPLE TO GET FREE!
HEY! YOU CRAZY--
SOMEHOW, HIS SYMBIOTE CAN EXTEND ITSELF ON A MOLECULAR LEVEL ALONG THE PHONE LINES THAT CONNECT THE COMPUTER AT RAVENCROFT WITH THE COMPUTER AT THE GAME COMPANY--
BEEP
VROOM
AWOOOO
POLICE
THEORETICALLY, CARNAGE CAN SEND HIS OTHER ANYPLACE THAT HAS A TERMINAL AND A MODEM!
WEST SIDE HIGHWAY NORTH
MIGHT AS WELL CHECK THE RADIO...
--AND THIS JUST IN FROM THE NEWSROOM: AN INFORMED SOURCE SAYS THAT THERE HAS BEEN A NEWS BLACKOUT AT THE RAVENCROFT MAXIMUM SECURITY FACILITY FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE--
CLICK
OF COURSE THERE'S A BLACKOUT, STUPID--!!
--THEY DON'T WANT TO ADMIT THAT CARNAGE IS LOOSE!!!
POLICE
2181

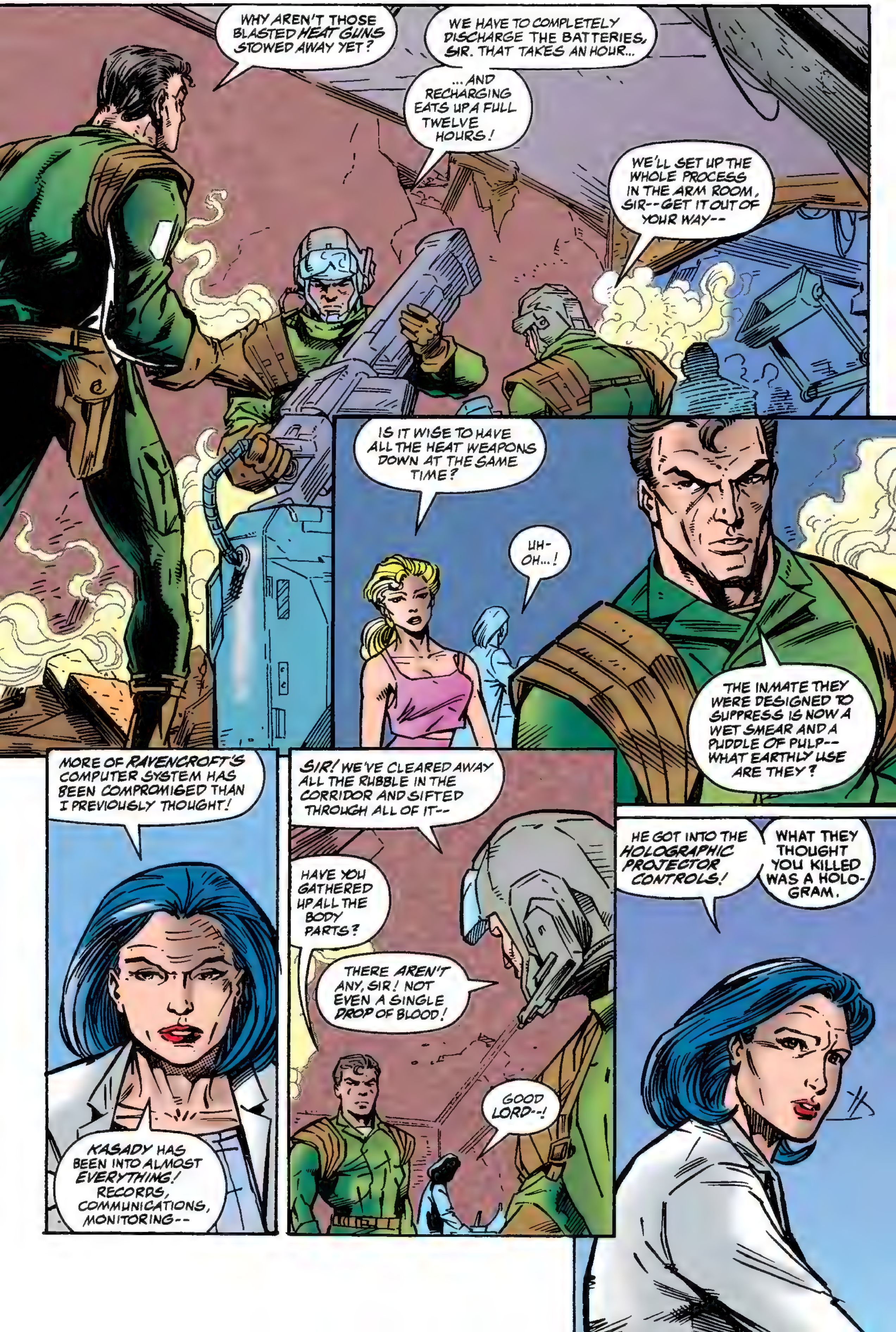

IN THE MIDTOWN MANHATTAN PENTHOUSE OF FORDHAM RHODES, PRESIDENT OF EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE...
...CARNAGE UNLEASHED IS GOING TO BE A MONSTER!
I TELL YOU, ALANA, SHERM AND HIS DEVELOPMENT TEAM HAVE GONE OVER THE TOP ON THIS GAME!
WAIT'LL HE FINDS OUT YOU'VE BEEN SKIMMING PROFITS, FORDHAM--
NEVER HAPPEN, BABY! HE'S A CREATIVE GEEK AND I'M AN MBA-- WHO'S ON FIRST, HUH?
ANYTHING YOU SAY, FORDHAM. UH, BY THE WAY--
--ALL THE BETA TESTERS ARE ON LINE ALREADY AND CHAMPING AT THE BIT!
THEY CAN'T WAIT UNTIL MIDNIGHT, WHEN CARNAGE UNLEASHED GOES ON-LINE AND WHACKED-OUT CLETUS KASADY GOES ON-LINE RIGHT ALONG WITH THEM!
AH, THERE'S SO MUCH PROFIT IN ANTICIPATION!
YOU DID GET THROUGH TO KAFKA AND CONFIRM THE HOOK-UP WITH KASADY, RIGHT?
BEEN CALLING ALL EVENING AND NOBODY ANSWERS!

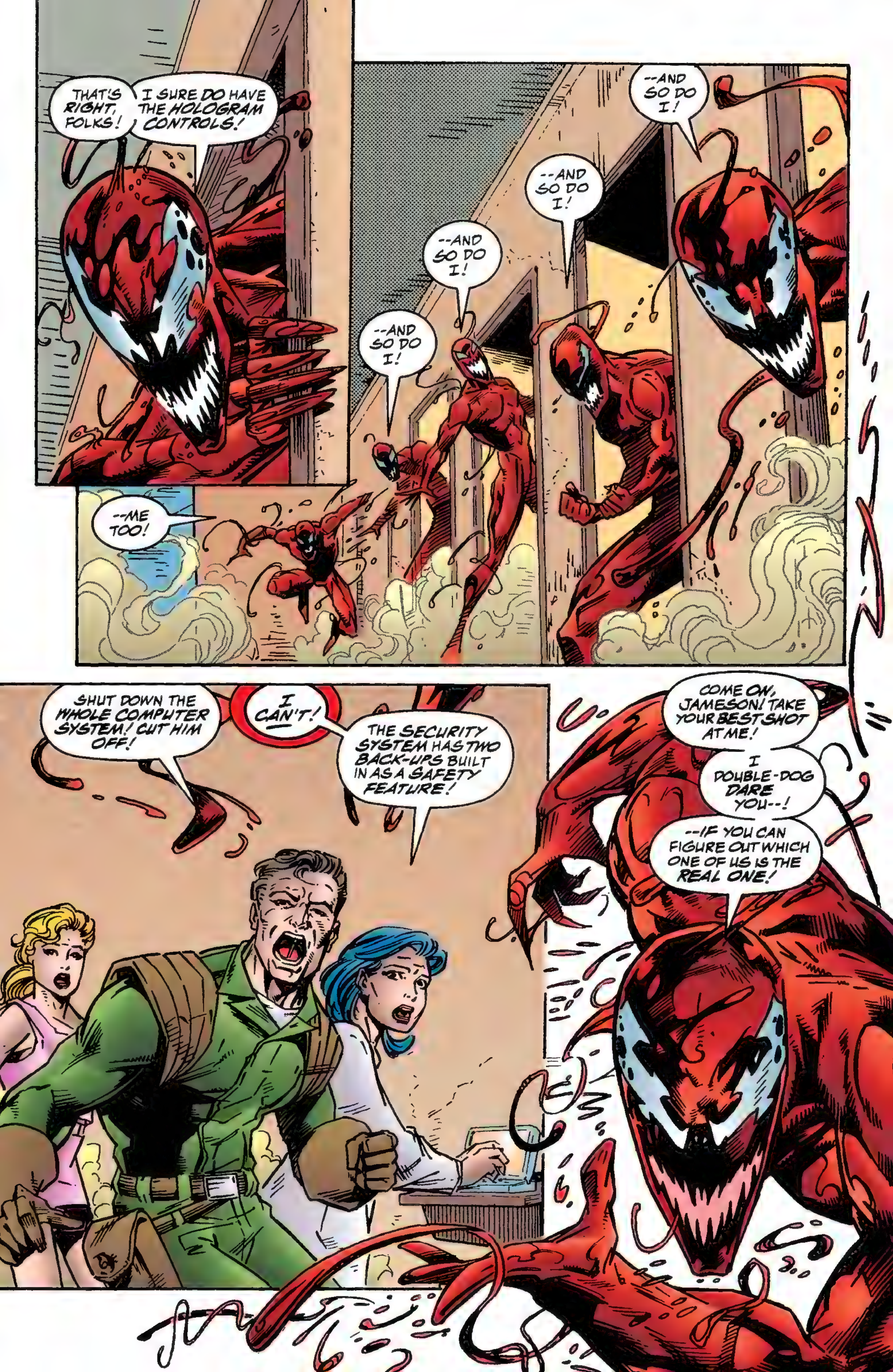

DR. KAFKA--ALL THE PHONE LINES ARE DEAD! THE EXCHANGE STATION FOR THIS WHOLE AREA IS DOWN!
OUR INFAMOUS INMATE HAS BEEN QUITE A BUSY LITTLE HACKER.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET YOU INTERVIEW HIM IN HIS CELL--HE USED HIS COOPERATION AS LEVERAGE FOR MORE COMPUTER TIME!
OH, COME OFF IT, KAFKA! I WAS PROJECTING A *HOLOGRAM* OF MYSELF INTO HIS CELL AND *BESIDES*--
--IT WAS *YOU* WHO MADE THE DEAL FOR THE COMPUTER GAME!
TIME'S *UP*, LADIES.
WE ARE GOING TO GIVE HIM THE OPTION OF VOLUNTARY SUBMISSION TO REINCARCERATION--
--AND WHEN HE REFUSES, WE'RE GOING TO SUBDUE HIM WITH *GRENADE LAUNCHERS, MISSILES* AND *FLAME-THROWERS!*
THAT'S TANTAMOUNT TO *MURDER!*
"THE SECURITY CHIEF MAY EXERCISE HIS OPTION TO EMPLOY DEADLY FORCE AGAINST AN INMATE IN THE ACT OF ESCAPING IF THE SAFETY OF SECURITY PERSONNEL OR CIVILIANS IS IN PERIL."
THIS SICK PUPPY HAS KILLED FIVE OF MY GUARDS--HE'S GOING DOWN!
MR. JAMESON--!!]

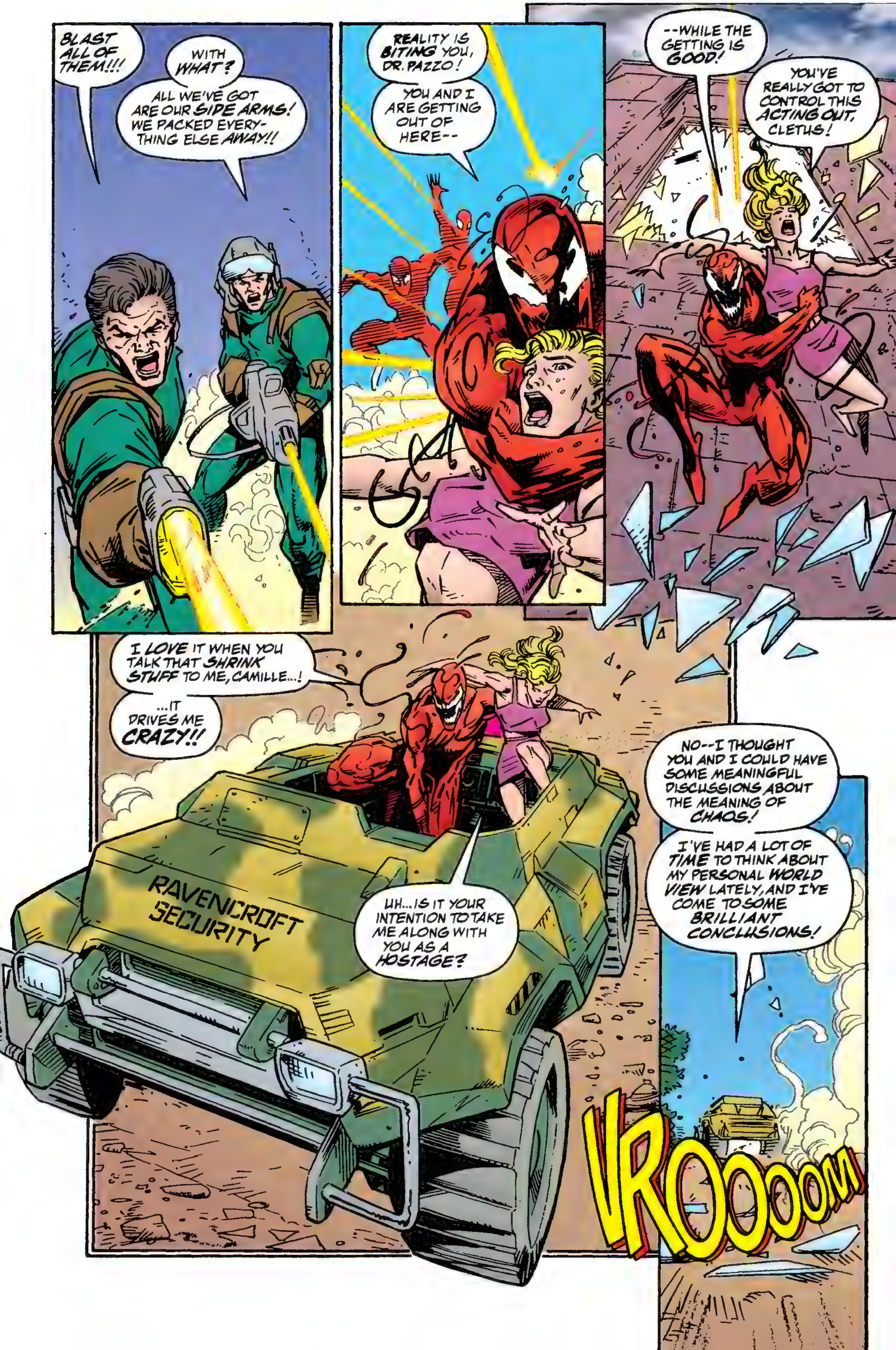

--HERE HE COMES AGAIN!!
HALT! PUT YOUR HANDS ABOVE YOUR HEAD AND FACE THE WALL!!
USE THE HEAT PROJECTORS FIRST--!
GIVE HIM HIS LEGAL WARNING!!!
NO WAY--
HIT HIM WITH THE MICROWAVES!
--YOU DIDN'T SAY "SIMON SAYS"!!
MISSILE AND GRENADE LAUNCHER TEAMS, FRONT AND CENTER!!
HOO-HA!
THE HEAT GUNS AREN'T HAVING ANY AFFECT ON HIM!!
GOOD LORD, JAMESON--
BACK OFF, KAFKA--THIS IS MY SHOW, NOW!

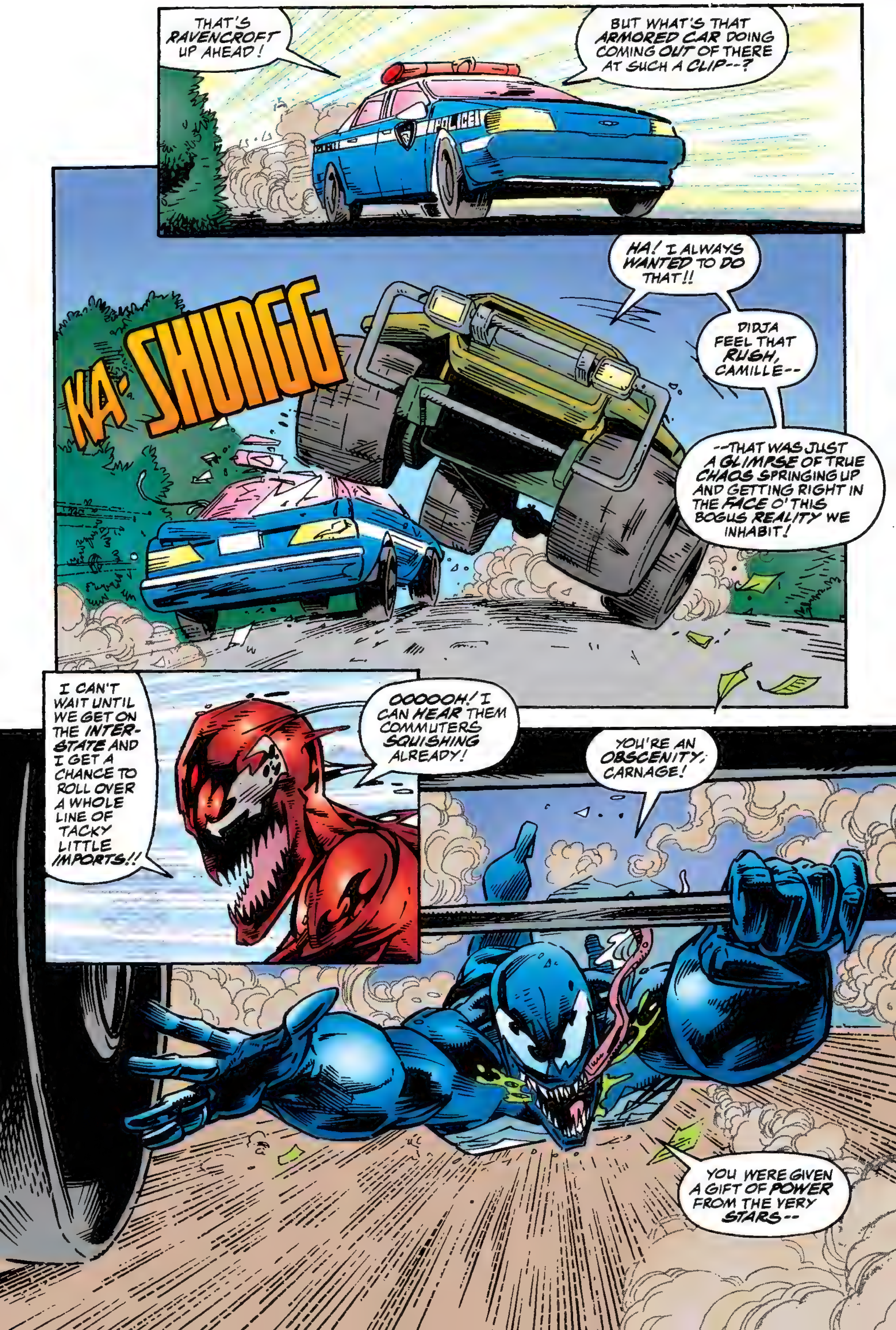

FOOM
FOOM
FIRE!!!
KA-THOOM
THAT DID IT!!
MADE KIBBLES & BITS™ OUT OF THAT PSYCHO-PUPPY, WE DID!
ALL RIGHT, STAND DOWN THE HEAVY HARDWARE AND GET THOSE USELESS HEAT GUNS OUT OF MY SIGHT!
GET THE ENGINEERS IN HERE TO CLEAR THE RUBBLE AND SCRAPE UP THE PIECES OF KASADY--
THAT WAS BLATANT OVER-REACTION!
BETTER THAN UNDERREACTING AND BEING DEAD.

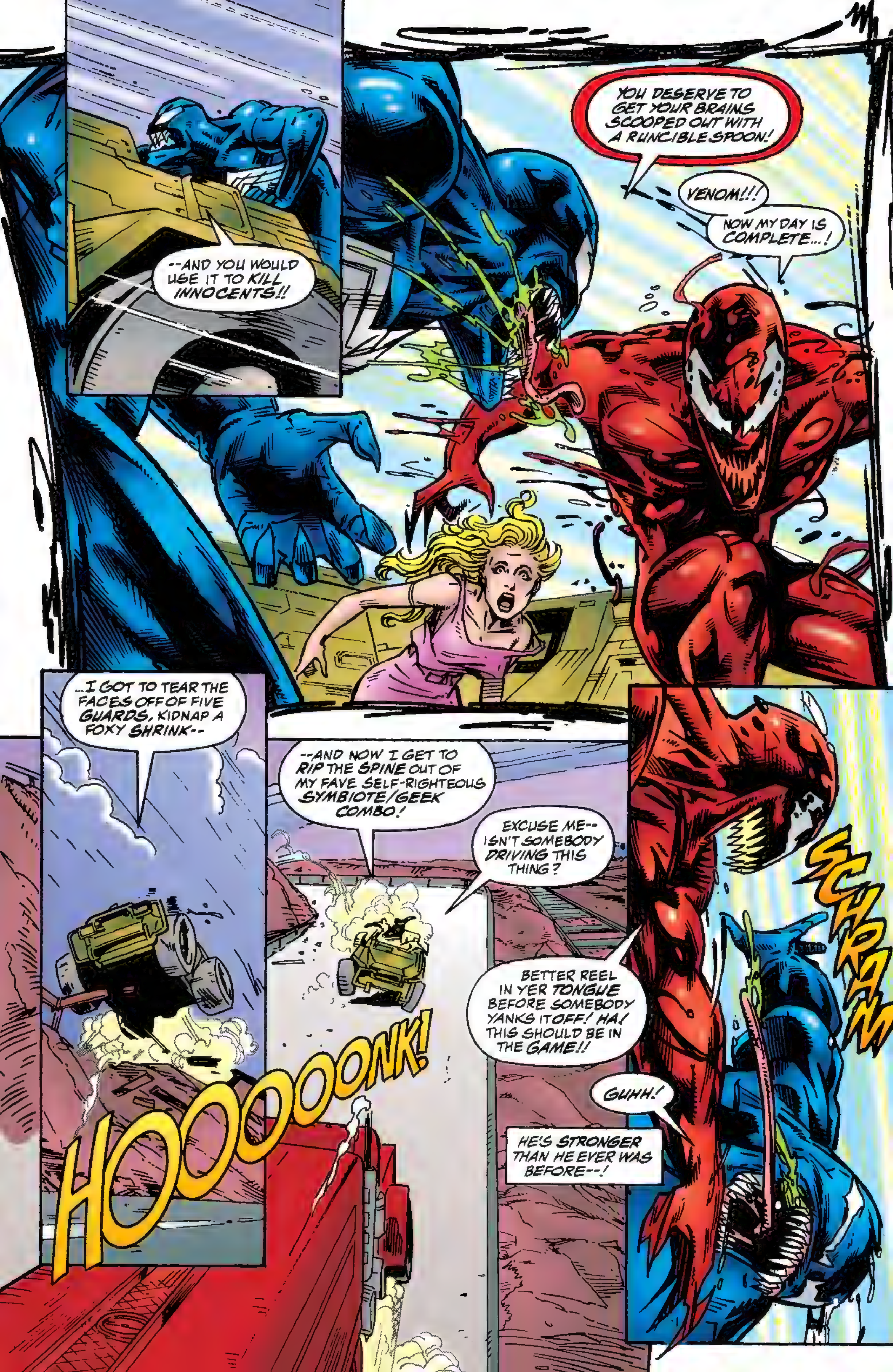

IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
...IT'S NOT MUCH, BUT I PLAN ON FIXING IT UP WHEN MY NATIONAL ENDOWMENT GRANT COMES THROUGH.
GOSH, IT'S--
--IT'S JUST THE WAY I *IMAGINED* IT WOULD BE!
LOOK, HAVE YOU GOT ANY *MONEY* OR *WHAT...??*
...THERE'S THINGS THAT GOTTA GET *DONE*, PEOPLE WHO GOTTA GET *MET*, STUFF THAT NEEDS TO GET *COPPED*--!
I'VE GOT THE MONEY I WAS SAVING TO BUY AN AMP...
THIS WILL DO NICELY.
YOU MAKE YOURSELF RIGHT AT HOME AND I'LL BE BACK--WHEN I GET BACK!
PLINK
PLINK
♫ I LEFT THE WINDY CITY ♪ WHERE I WAS A PRISONER OF MY DREAMS AND NOW I AM A PAROLEE IN THE BIG BAD APPLE WHERE NOTHING IS WHAT IT SEEMS...

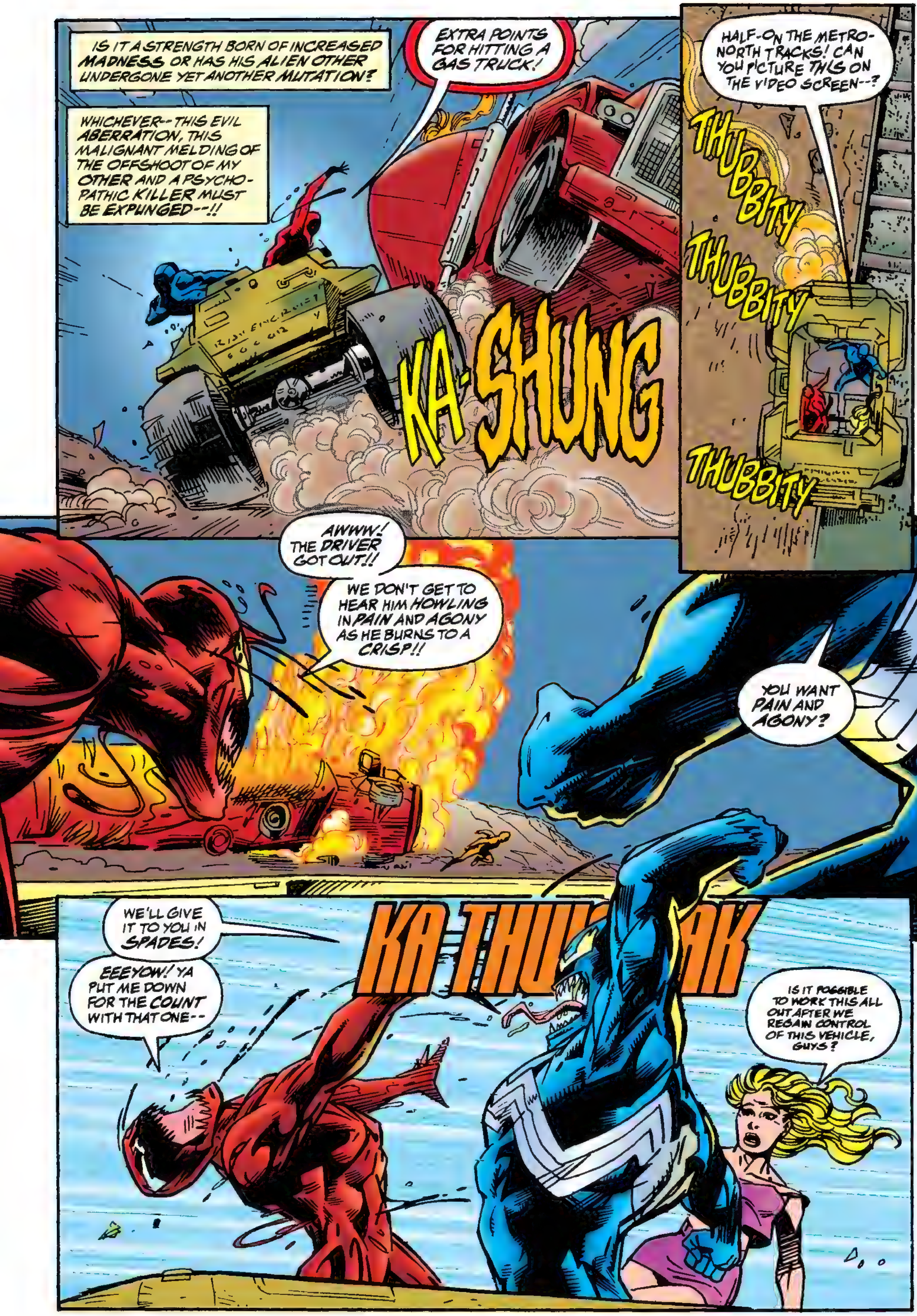

WHY AREN'T THOSE BLASTED *HEAT GUNS* STOWED AWAY YET?
WE HAVE TO COMPLETELY DISCHARGE THE BATTERIES, SIR. THAT TAKES AN HOUR...
...AND RECHARGING EATS UP A FULL TWELVE HOURS!
WE'LL SET UP THE WHOLE PROCESS IN THE ARM ROOM, SIR--GET IT OUT OF YOUR WAY--
IS IT WISE TO HAVE ALL THE HEAT WEAPONS DOWN AT THE SAME TIME?
UH-OH...!
THE INMATE THEY WERE DESIGNED TO SUPPRESS IS NOW A WET SMEAR AND A PUDDLE OF PULP--WHAT EARTHLY USE ARE THEY?
MORE OF *RAVENCROFT'S* COMPUTER SYSTEM HAS BEEN COMPROMISED THAN I PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT!
KASADY HAS BEEN INTO ALMOST *EVERYTHING!* RECORDS, COMMUNICATIONS, MONITORING--
SIR! WE'VE CLEARED AWAY ALL THE RUBBLE IN THE CORRIDOR AND SIFTED THROUGH ALL OF IT--
HAVE YOU GATHERED UP ALL THE BODY PARTS?
THERE *AREN'T* ANY, SIR! NOT EVEN A SINGLE *DROP* OF BLOOD!
GOOD LORD--!
HE GOT INTO THE *HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTOR CONTROLS!*
WHAT THEY THOUGHT YOU KILLED WAS A HOLOGRAM.

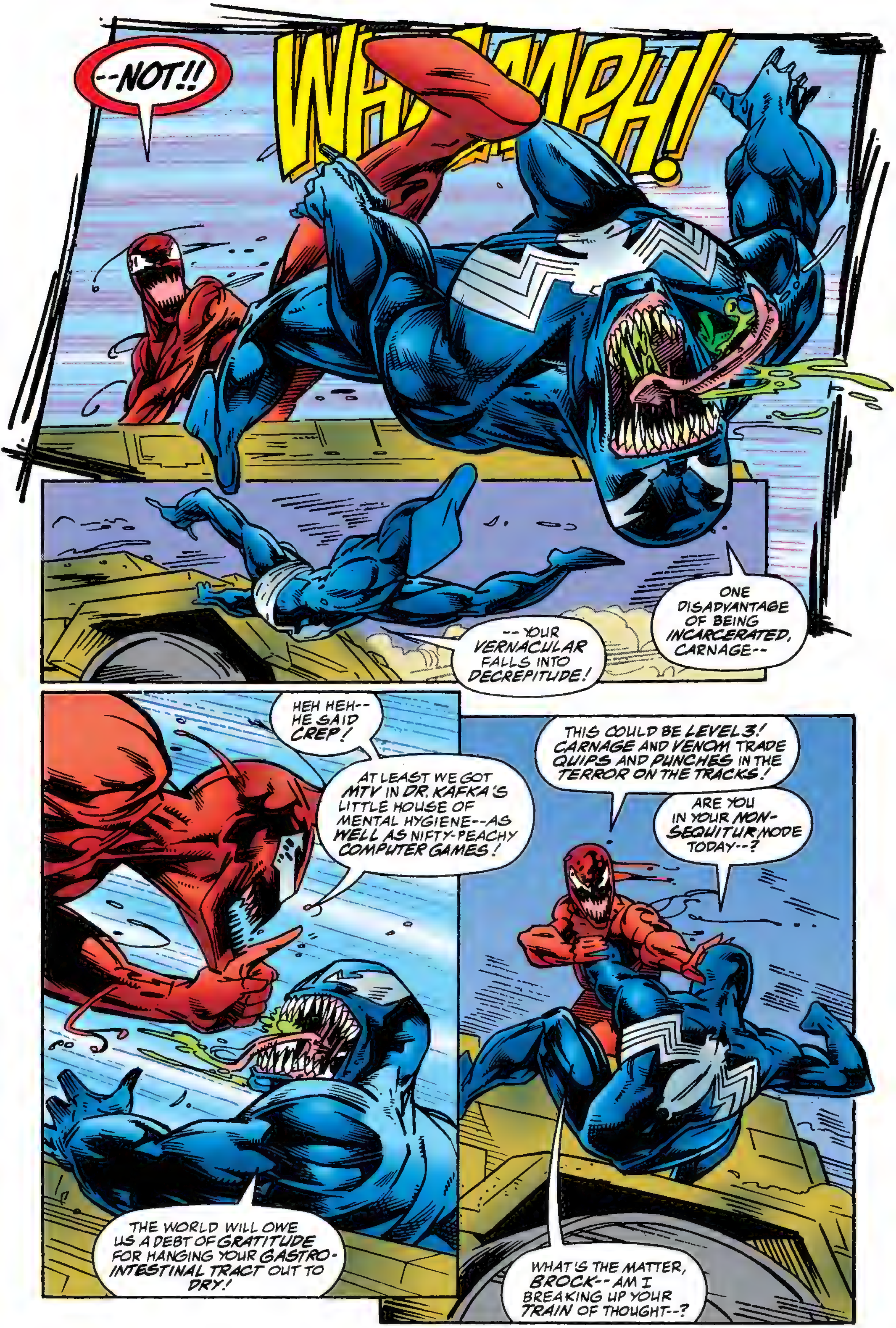

THAT'S RIGHT, FOLKS!
I SURE DO HAVE THE HOLOGRAM CONTROLS!
--AND SO DO I!
--AND SO DO I!
--AND SO DO I!
--AND SO DO I!
--ME TOO!
SHUT DOWN THE WHOLE COMPUTER SYSTEM! CUT HIM OFF!
I CAN'T!
THE SECURITY SYSTEM HAS TWO BACK-UPS BUILT IN AS A SAFETY FEATURE!
COME ON, JAMESON! TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT AT ME!
I DOUBLE-DOG DARE YOU--!
--IF YOU CAN FIGURE OUT WHICH ONE OF US IS THE REAL ONE!

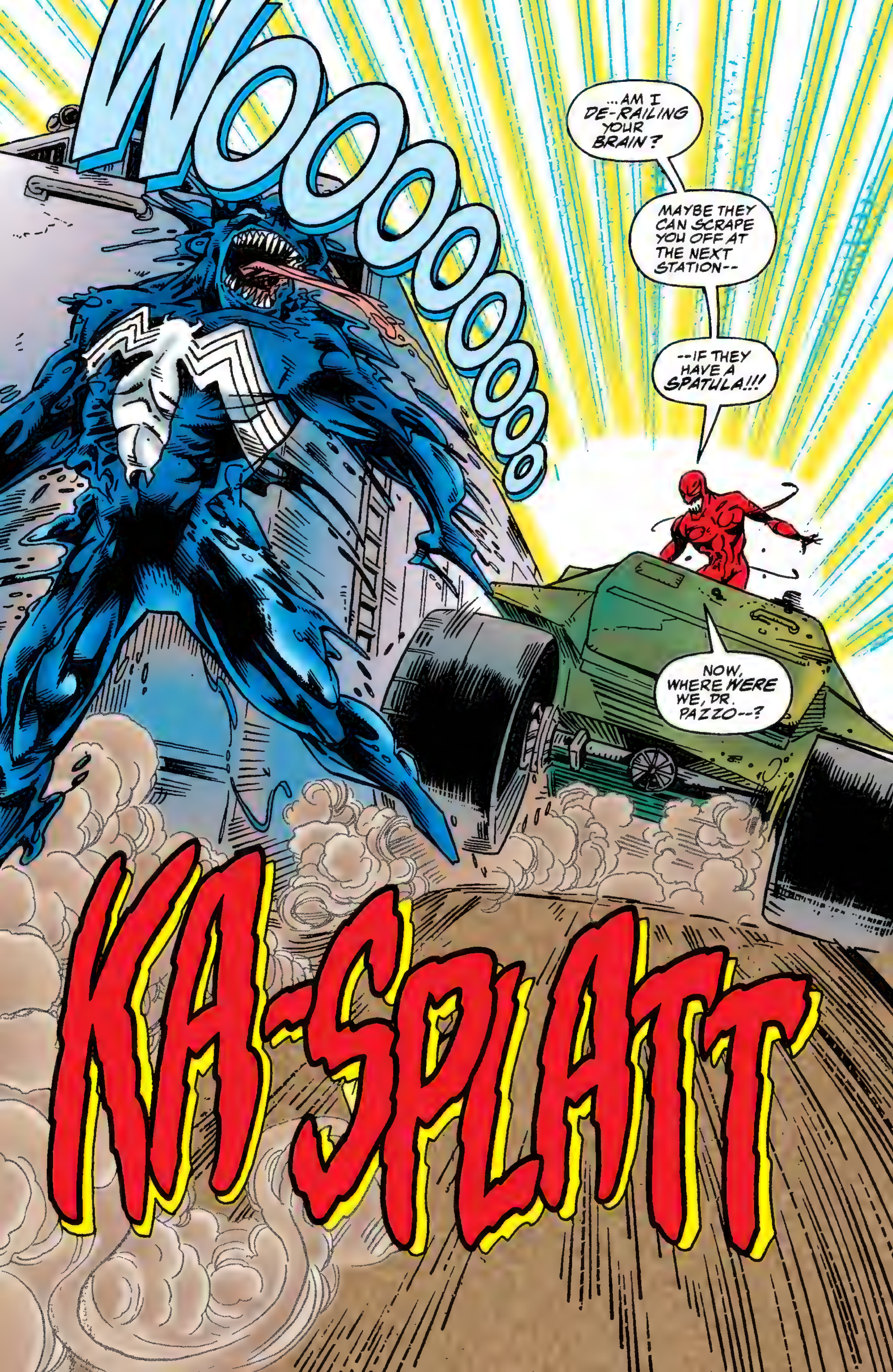

BLAST ALL OF THEM!!!
WITH WHAT?
ALL WE'VE GOT ARE OUR SIDE ARMS! WE PACKED EVERYTHING ELSE AWAY!!
REALITY IS BITING YOU, DR. PAZZO!
YOU AND I ARE GETTING OUT OF HERE--
--WHILE THE GETTING IS GOOD!
YOU'VE REALLY GOT TO CONTROL THIS ACTING OUT, CLETUS!
I LOVE IT WHEN YOU TALK THAT SHRINK STUFF TO ME, CAMILLE...!
...IT DRIVES ME CRAZY!!
RAVENCROFT SECURITY
UH...IS IT YOUR INTENTION TO TAKE ME ALONG WITH YOU AS A HOSTAGE?
NO--I THOUGHT YOU AND I COULD HAVE SOME MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE MEANING OF CHAOS!
I'VE HAD A LOT OF TIME TO THINK ABOUT MY PERSONAL WORLD VIEW LATELY, AND I'VE COME TO SOME BRILLIANT CONCLUSIONS!
VROOOOM

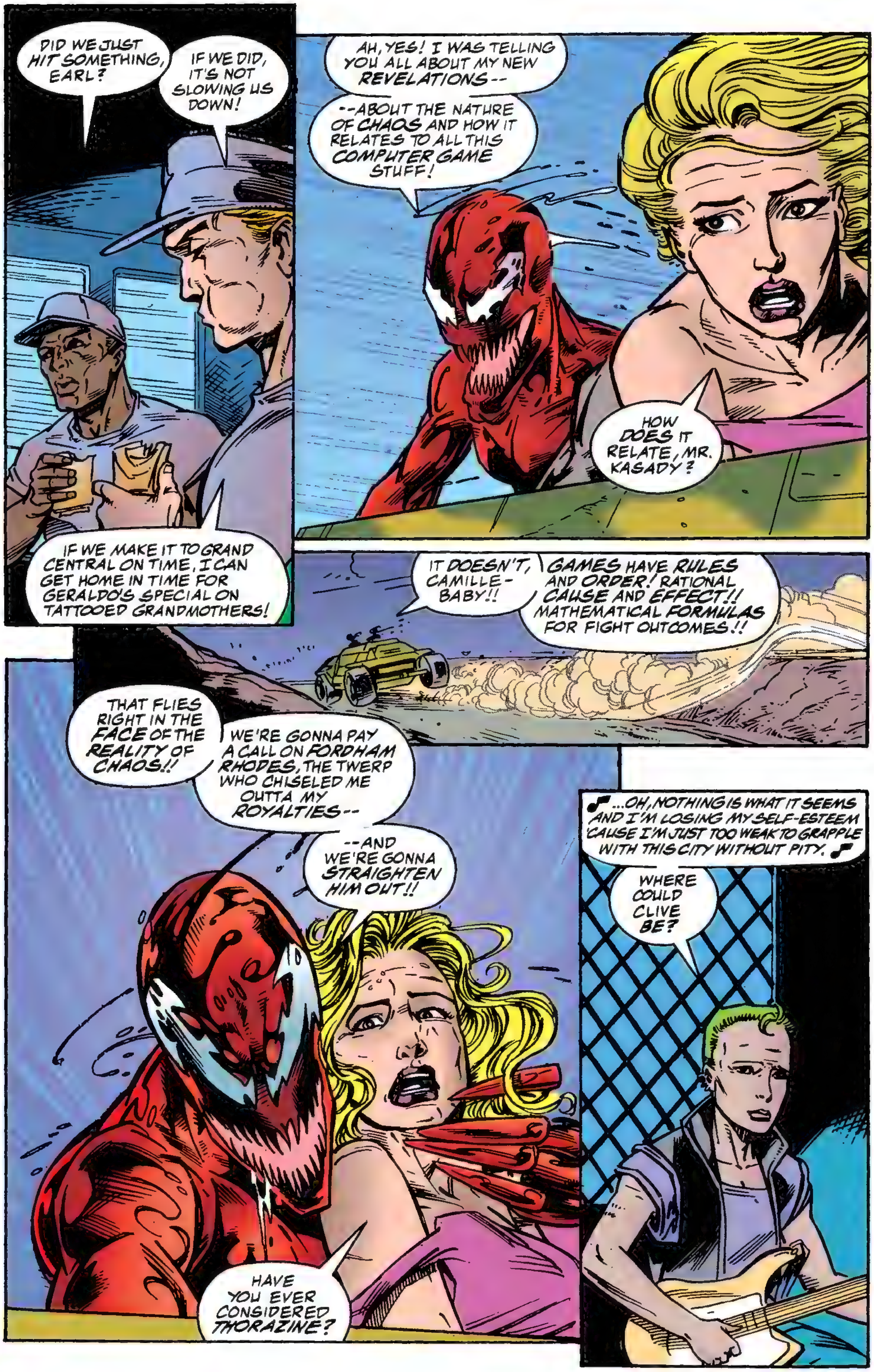

THAT'S RAVENCROFT UP AHEAD!
BUT WHAT'S THAT ARMORED CAR DOING COMING OUT OF THERE AT SUCH A CLIP--?
POLICE
KA-SHUNGG
HA! I ALWAYS WANTED TO DO THAT!!
DIDJA FEEL THAT RUSH, CAMILLE--
--THAT WAS JUST A GLIMPSE OF TRUE CHAOS SPRINGING UP AND GETTING RIGHT IN THE FACE O' THIS BOGUS REALITY WE INHABIT!
I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL WE GET ON THE INTER-STATE AND I GET A CHANCE TO ROLL OVER A WHOLE LINE OF TACKY LITTLE IMPORTS!!
OOOOOOH! I CAN HEAR THEM COMMUTERS SQUISHING ALREADY!
YOU'RE AN OBSCENITY, CARNAGE!
YOU WERE GIVEN A GIFT OF POWER FROM THE VERY STARS--

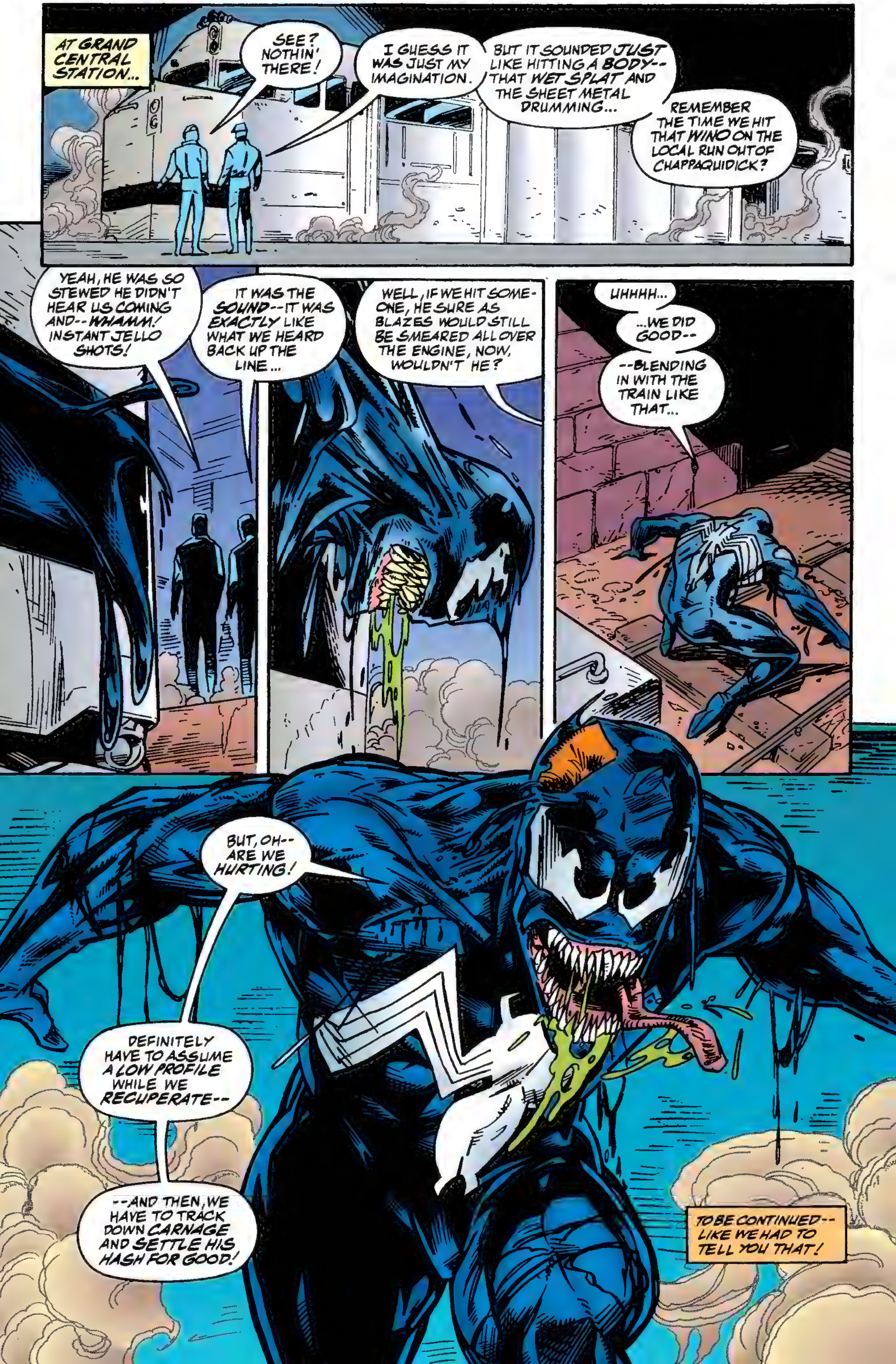

--AND YOU WOULD USE IT TO *KILL INNOCENTS!!*
YOU DESERVE TO GET YOUR BRAINS SCOOPED OUT WITH A RUNCIBLE SPOON!
VENOM!!!
NOW MY DAY IS COMPLETE...!
...I GOT TO TEAR THE FACES OFF OF FIVE *GUARDS*, KIDNAP A FOXY *SHRINK*--
--AND NOW I GET TO *RIP* THE *SPINE* OUT OF MY FAVE SELF-RIGHTEOUS *SYMBIOTE/GEEK* COMBO!
EXCUSE ME-- ISN'T SOMEBODY *DRIVING* THIS THING?
HOOOOOONK!
SCHRAM
BETTER REEL IN YER *TONGUE* BEFORE SOMEBODY YANKS IT OFF! *HA!* THIS SHOULD BE IN THE *GAME!!*
GUHH!
HE'S *STRONGER* THAN HE EVER WAS BEFORE--!

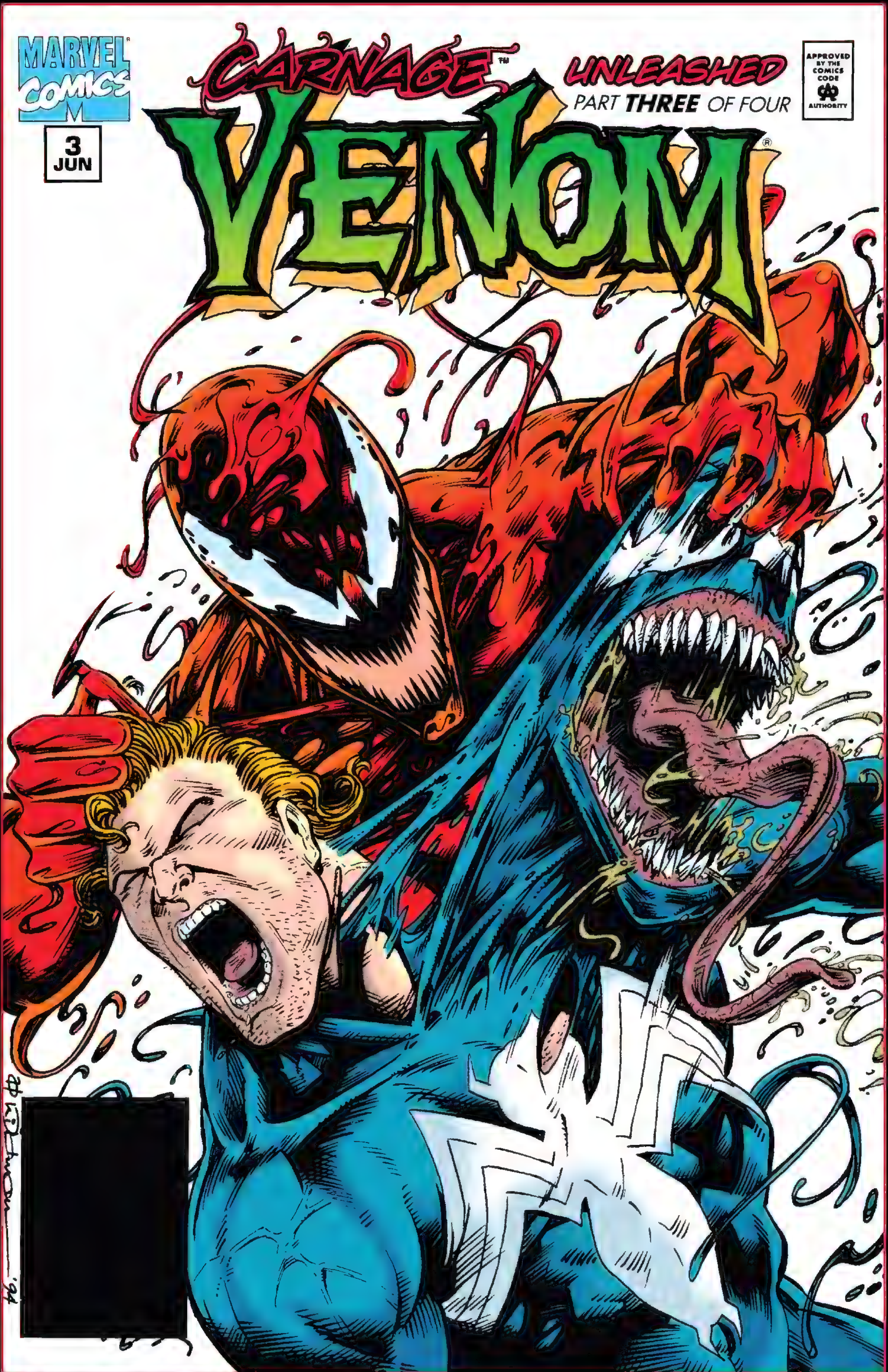

IS IT A STRENGTH BORN OF INCREASED MADNESS OR HAS HIS ALIEN OTHER UNDERGONE YET ANOTHER MUTATION?
WHICHEVER-- THIS EVIL ABERRATION, THIS MALIGNANT MELDING OF THE OFFSHOOT OF MY OTHER AND A PSYCHOPATHIC KILLER MUST BE EXPUNGED--!!
EXTRA POINTS FOR HITTING A GAS TRUCK!
KA-SHUNG
HALF-ON THE METRO-NORTH TRACKS! CAN YOU PICTURE THIS ON THE VIDEO SCREEN--?
THUBBITY
THUBBITY
THUBBITY
AWWW! THE DRIVER GOT OUT!!
WE DON'T GET TO HEAR HIM HOWLING IN PAIN AND AGONY AS HE BURNS TO A CRISP!!
YOU WANT PAIN AND AGONY?
WE'LL GIVE IT TO YOU IN SPADES!
KA THU AK
EEEYOW! YA PUT ME DOWN FOR THE COUNT WITH THAT ONE--
IS IT POSSIBLE TO WORK THIS ALL OUT AFTER WE REGAIN CONTROL OF THIS VEHICLE, GUYS?


--NOT!!
WHA MPH!
ONE DISADVANTAGE OF BEING INCARCERATED, CARNAGE--
--YOUR VERNACULAR FALLS INTO DECREPITUDE!
HEH HEH-- HE SAID CREP!
AT LEAST WE GOT MTV IN DR. KAFKA'S LITTLE HOUSE OF MENTAL HYGIENE--AS WELL AS NIFTY-PEACHY COMPUTER GAMES!
THE WORLD WILL OWE US A DEBT OF GRATITUDE FOR HANGING YOUR GASTRO-INTESTINAL TRACT OUT TO DRY!
THIS COULD BE LEVEL 3! CARNAGE AND VENOM TRADE QUIPS AND PUNCHES IN THE TERROR ON THE TRACKS!
ARE YOU IN YOUR NON-SEQUITUR MODE TODAY--?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, BROCK-- AM I BREAKING UP YOUR TRAIN OF THOUGHT--?


WOOOOOOOOOOO
...AM I DE-RAILING YOUR BRAIN?
MAYBE THEY CAN SCRAPE YOU OFF AT THE NEXT STATION--
--IF THEY HAVE A SPATULA!!!
NOW, WHERE WERE WE, DR. PAZZO--?
KA-SPLATT


DID WE JUST HIT SOMETHING, EARL?
IF WE DID, IT'S NOT SLOWING US DOWN!
IF WE MAKE IT TO GRAND CENTRAL ON TIME, I CAN GET HOME IN TIME FOR GERALDO'S SPECIAL ON TATTOOED GRANDMOTHERS!
AH, YES! I WAS TELLING YOU ALL ABOUT MY NEW REVELATIONS--
--ABOUT THE NATURE OF CHAOS AND HOW IT RELATES TO ALL THIS COMPUTER GAME STUFF!
HOW DOES IT RELATE, MR. KASADY?
IT DOESN'T, CAMILLE-BABY!!
GAMES HAVE RULES AND ORDER! RATIONAL CAUSE AND EFFECT!! MATHEMATICAL FORMULAS FOR FIGHT OUTCOMES!!
THAT FLIES RIGHT IN THE FACE OF THE REALITY OF CHAOS!!
WE'RE GONNA PAY A CALL ON FORDHAM RHODES, THE TWERP WHO CHISELED ME OUTTA MY ROYALTIES--
--AND WE'RE GONNA STRAIGHTEN HIM OUT!!
HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED THORAZINE?
♪ ...OH, NOTHING IS WHAT IT SEEMS AND I'M LOSING MY SELF-ESTEEM 'CAUSE I'M JUST TOO WEAK TO GRAPPLE WITH THIS CITY WITHOUT PITY. ♪
WHERE COULD CLIVE BE?


AT GRAND CENTRAL STATION...
SEE? NOTHIN' THERE!
I GUESS IT WAS JUST MY IMAGINATION.
BUT IT SOUNDED JUST LIKE HITTING A BODY-- THAT WET SPLAT AND THE SHEET METAL DRUMMING...
REMEMBER THE TIME WE HIT THAT WINO ON THE LOCAL RUN OUT OF CHAPPAQUIDICK?
YEAH, HE WAS SO STEWED HE DIDN'T HEAR US COMING AND-- WHAMM! INSTANT JELLO SHOTS!
IT WAS THE SOUND-- IT WAS EXACTLY LIKE WHAT WE HEARD BACK UP THE LINE...
WELL, IF WE HIT SOMEONE, HE SURE AS BLAZES WOULD STILL BE SMEARED ALL OVER THE ENGINE, NOW, WOULDN'T HE?
UHHHH...
...WE DID GOOD--
--BLENDING IN WITH THE TRAIN LIKE THAT...
BUT, OH-- ARE WE HURTING!
DEFINITELY HAVE TO ASSUME A LOW PROFILE WHILE WE RECUPERATE--
--AND THEN, WE HAVE TO TRACK DOWN CARNAGE AND SETTLE HIS HASH FOR GOOD!
TO BE CONTINUED-- LIKE WE HAD TO TELL YOU THAT!


MARVEL COMICS
3
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CARNAGE™ UNLEASHED
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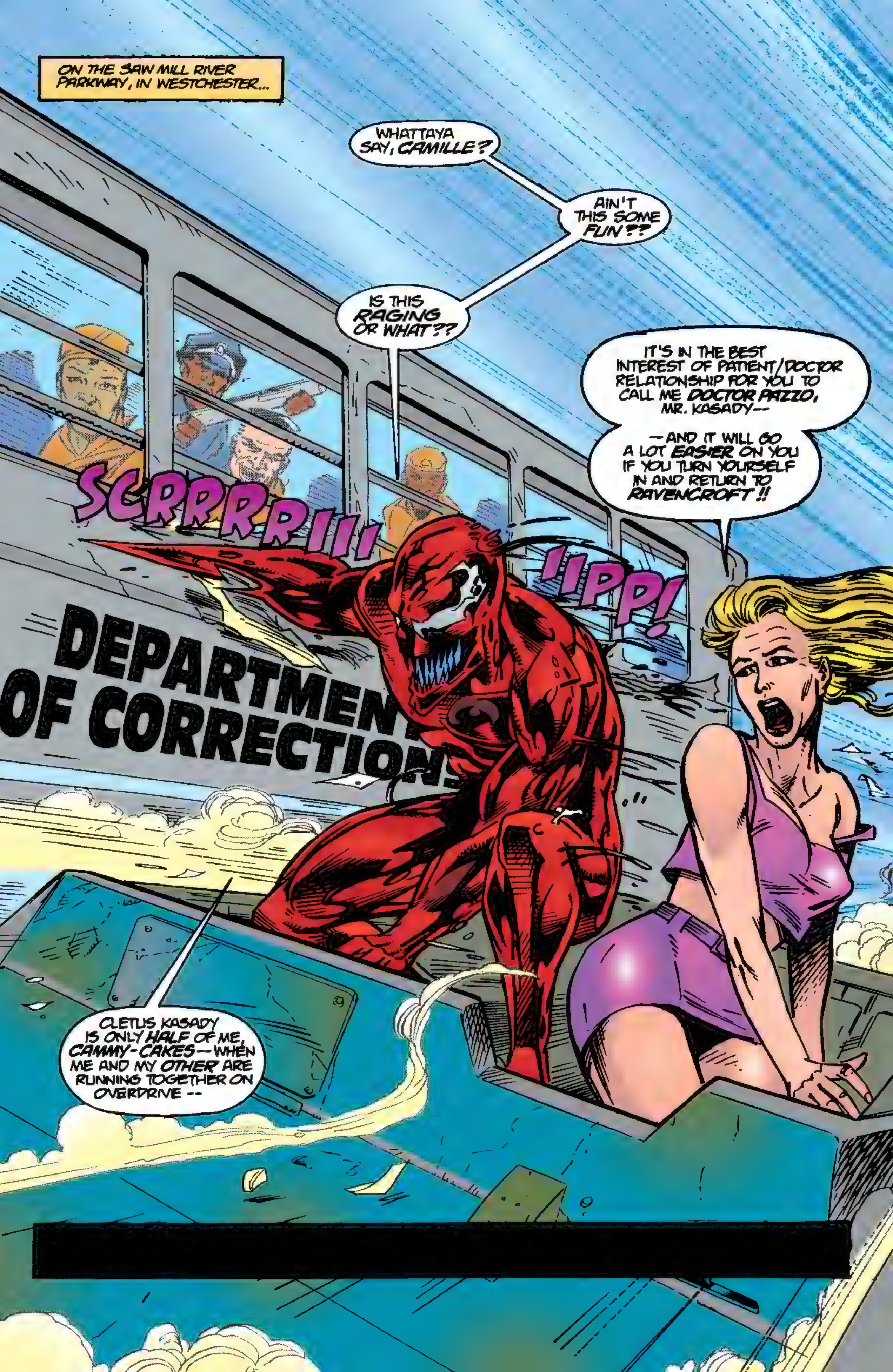
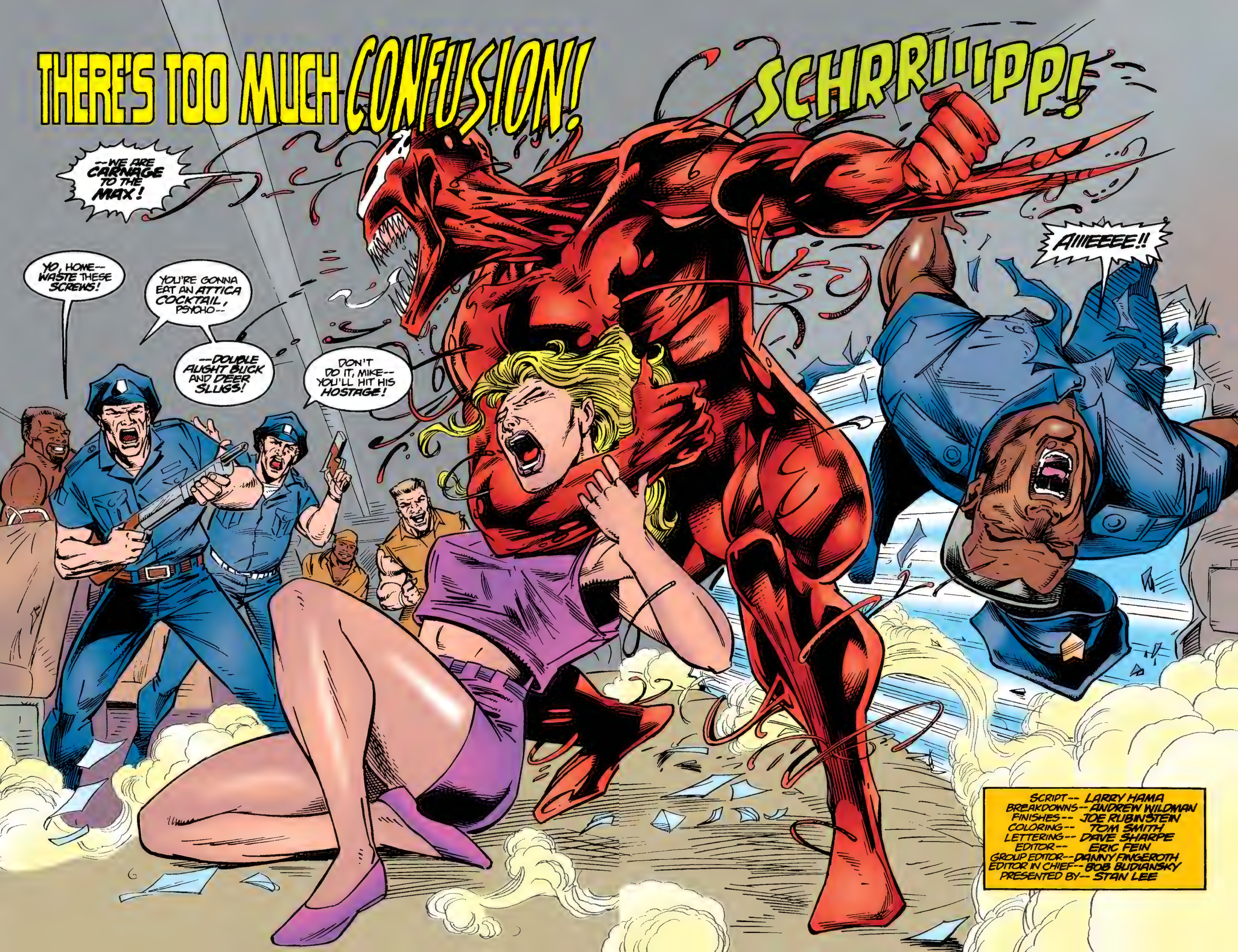

ON THE SAW MILL RIVER PARKWAY, IN WESTCHESTER...
WHATTAYA SAY, CAMILLE?
AIN'T THIS SOME FUN??
IS THIS RAGING OR WHAT??
IT'S IN THE BEST INTEREST OF PATIENT/DOCTOR RELATIONSHIP FOR YOU TO CALL ME DOCTOR PAZZO, MR. KASADY--
--AND IT WILL GO A LOT EASIER ON YOU IF YOU TURN YOURSELF IN AND RETURN TO RAVENCROFT!!
SCRRRRIIIIIPP!
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
CLETUS KASADY IS ONLY HALF OF ME, CAMMY-CAKES--WHEN ME AND MY OTHER ARE RUNNING TOGETHER ON OVERDRIVE --

[redacted]


THERE'S TOO MUCH CONFUSION!
SCHRRI'I'PP!
--WE ARE CARNAGE TO THE MAX!
YO, HOME-- WASTE THESE SCREWS!
YOU'RE GONNA EAT AN ATTICA COCKTAIL, PSYCHO--
--DOUBLE AUGHT BUCK AND DEER SLUGS!
DON'T DO IT, MIKE-- YOU'LL HIT HIS HOSTAGE!
AIIIEEEE!!

SCRIPT-- LARRY HAMA
BREAKDOWNS-- ANDREW WILDMAN
FINISHES-- JOE RUBINSTEIN
COLORING-- TOM SMITH
LETTERING-- DAVE SHARPE
EDITOR-- ERIC FEIN
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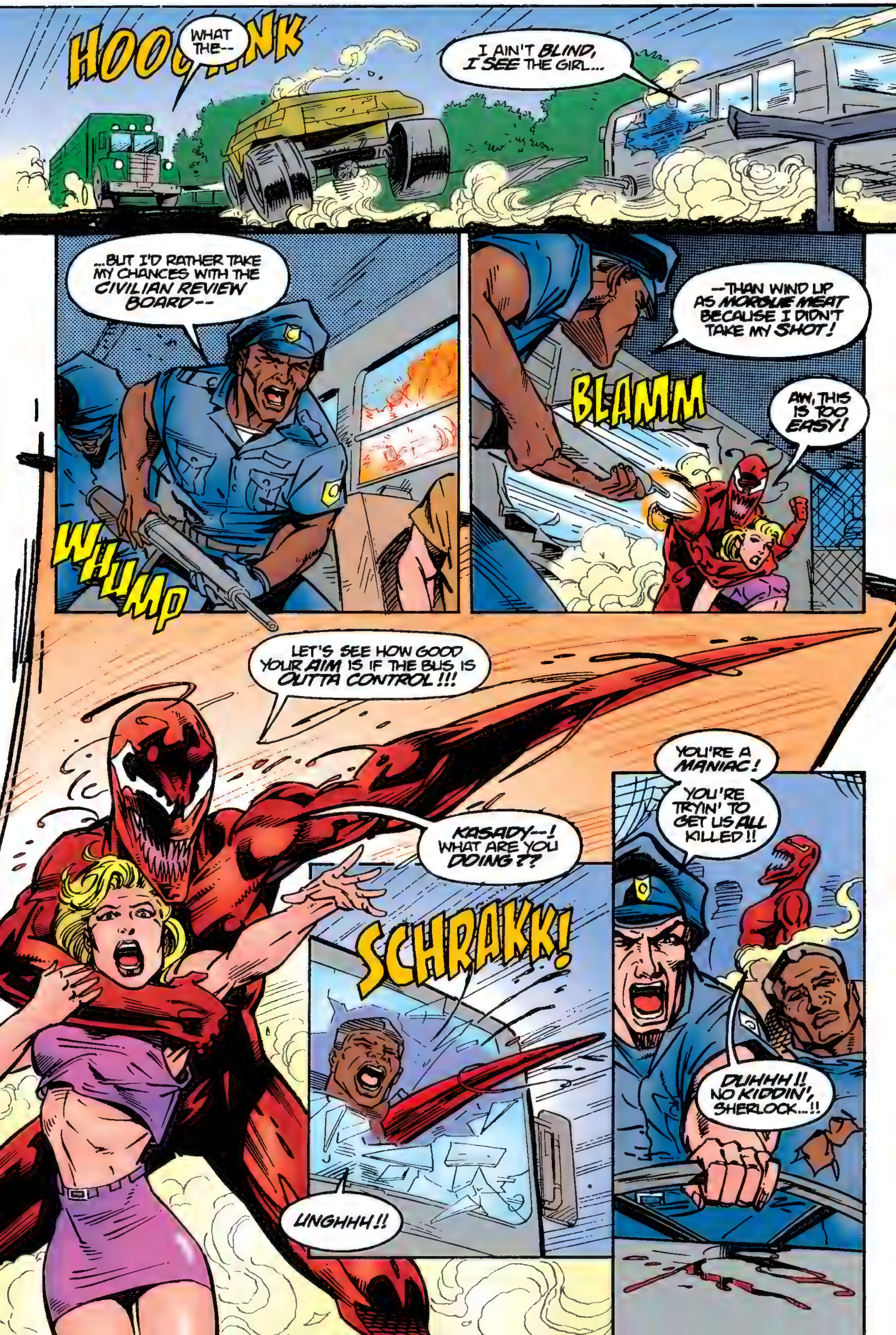
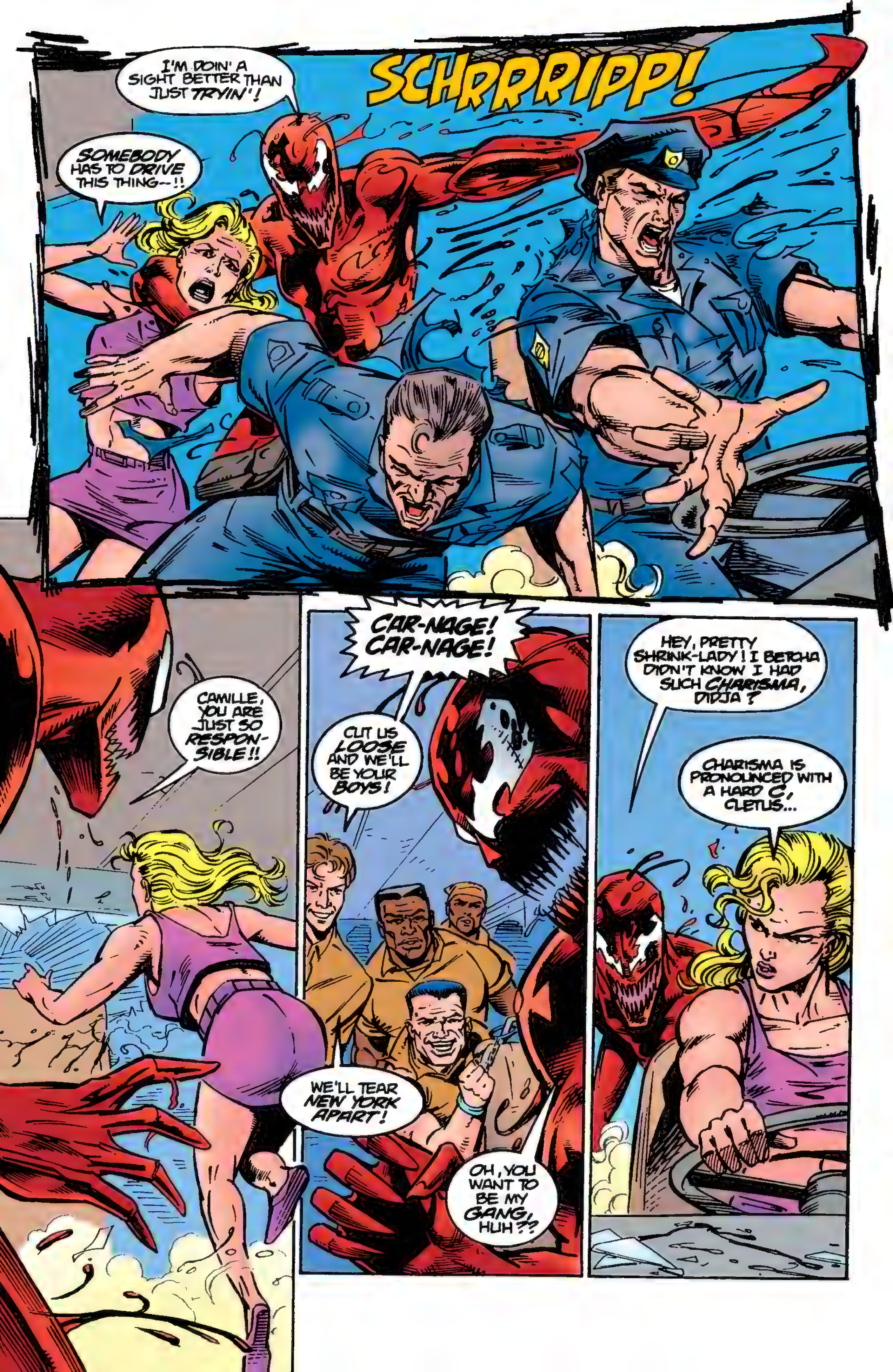
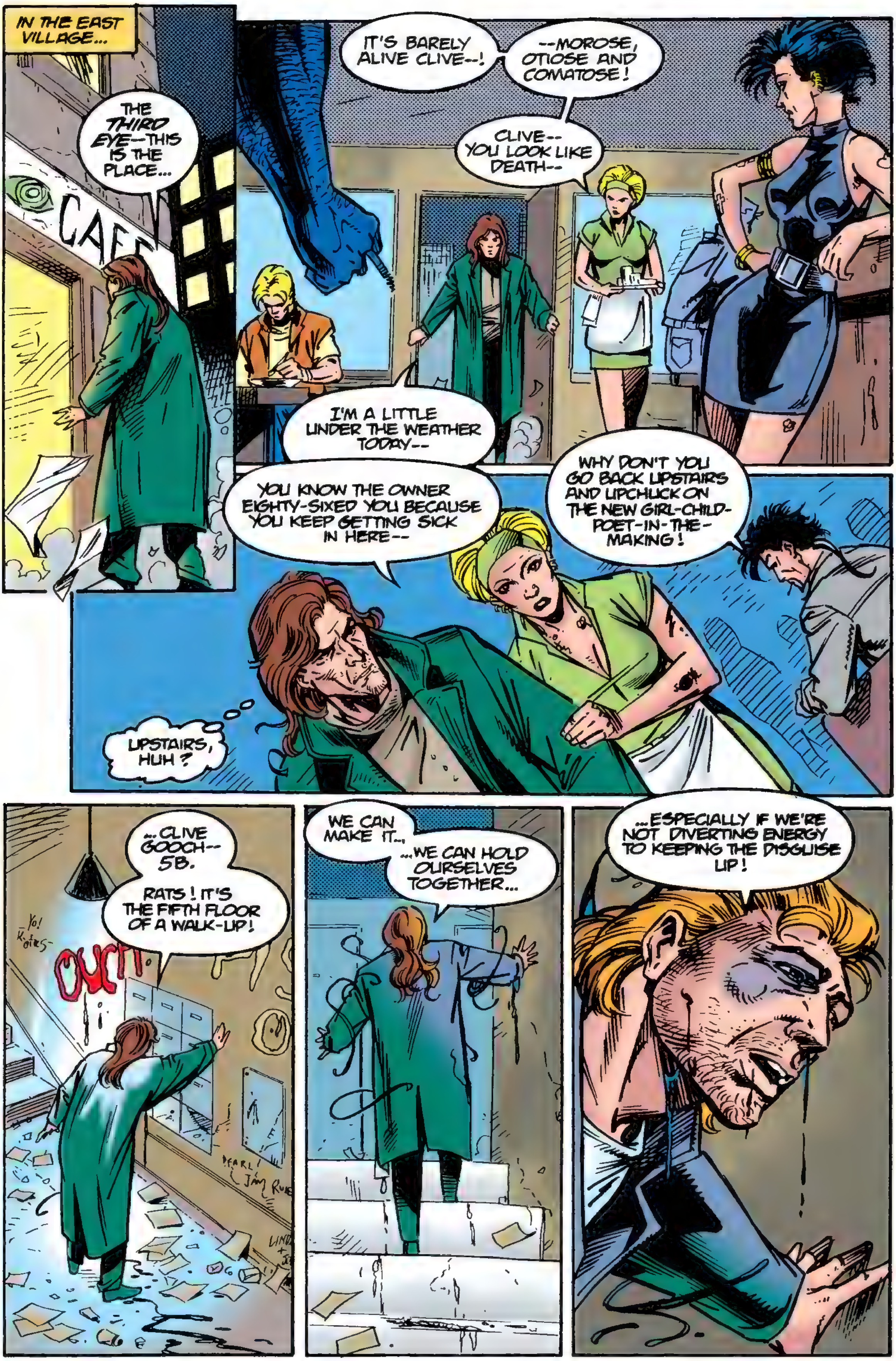
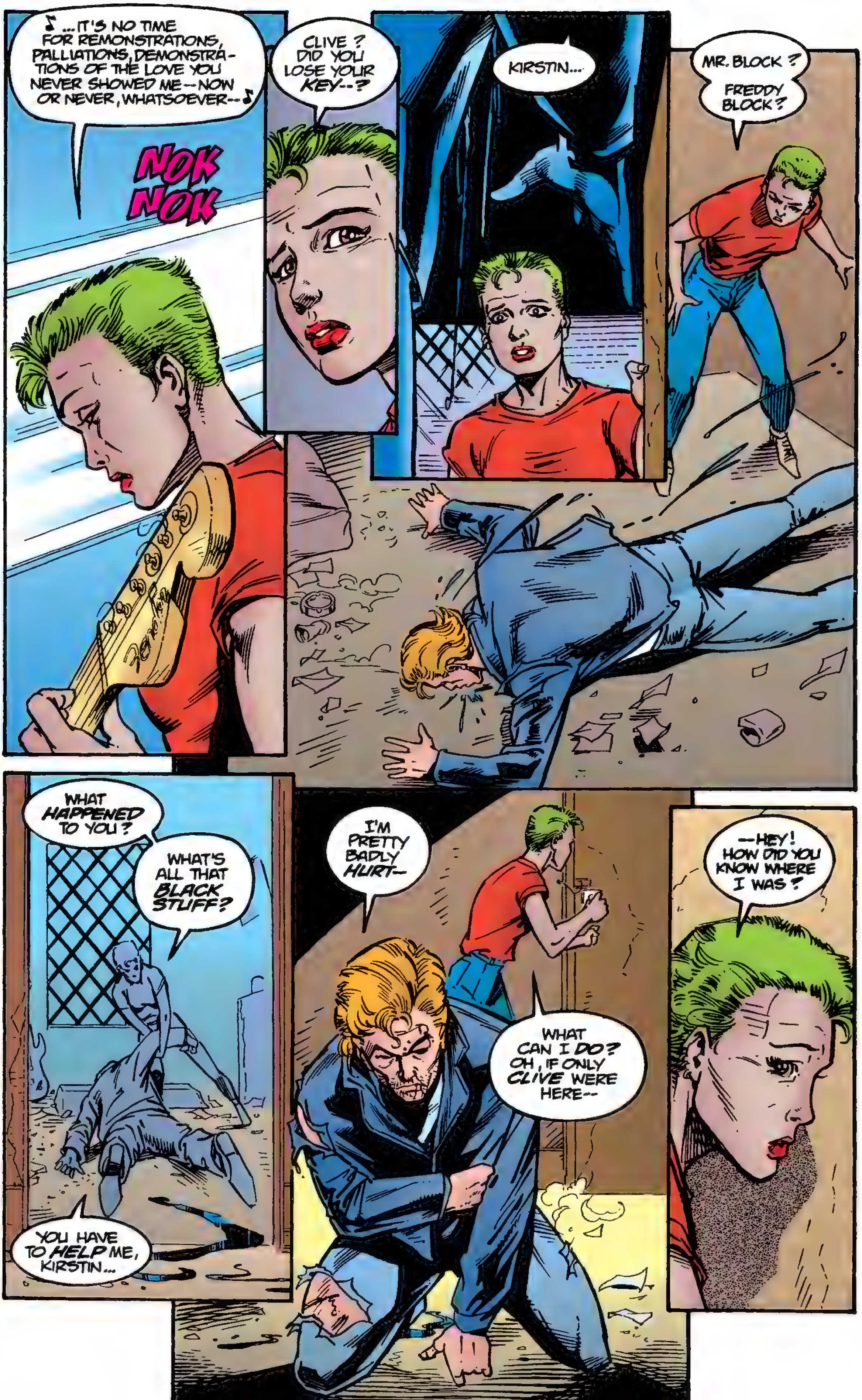
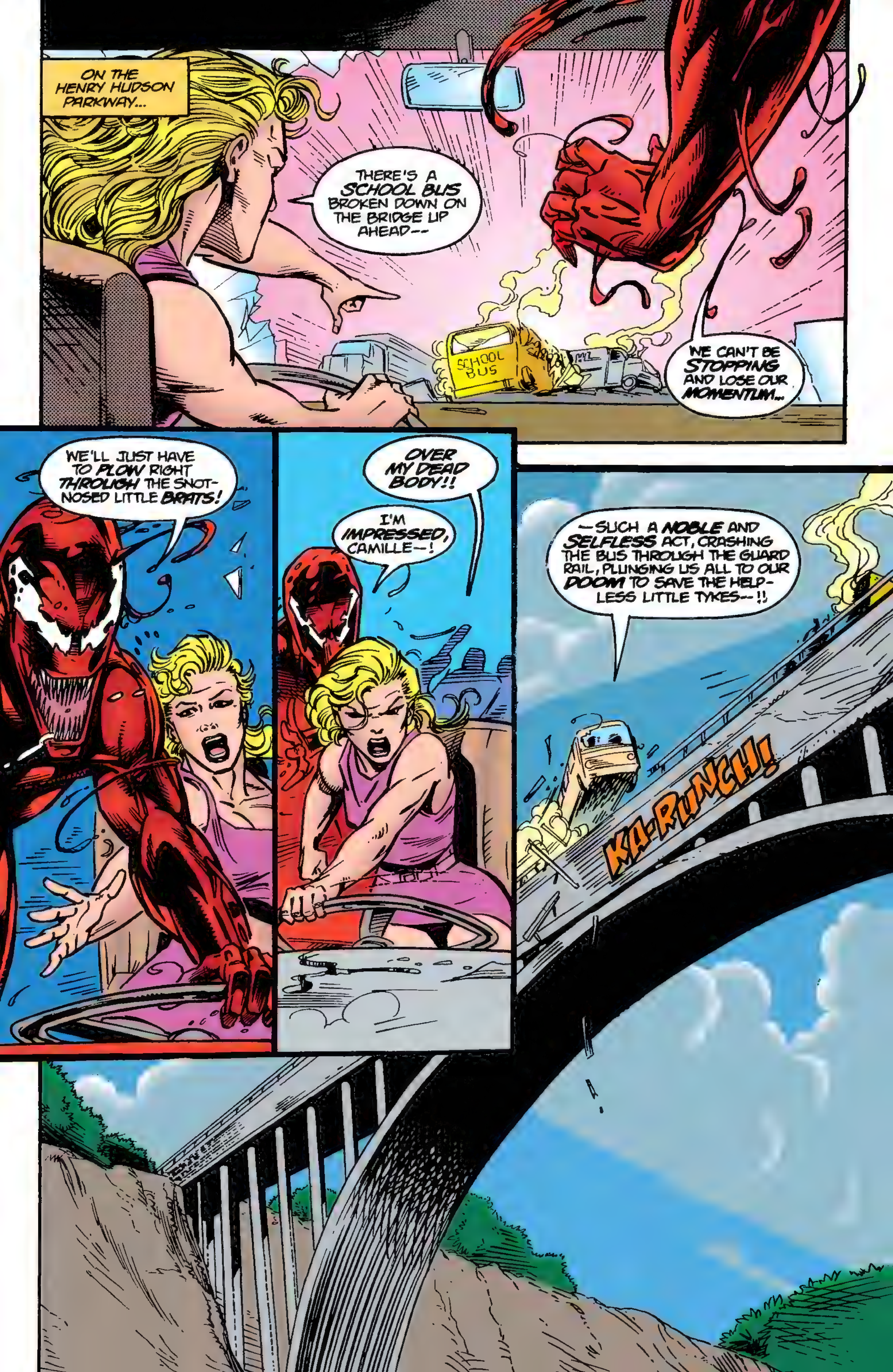
PRESENTED BY-- STAN LEE

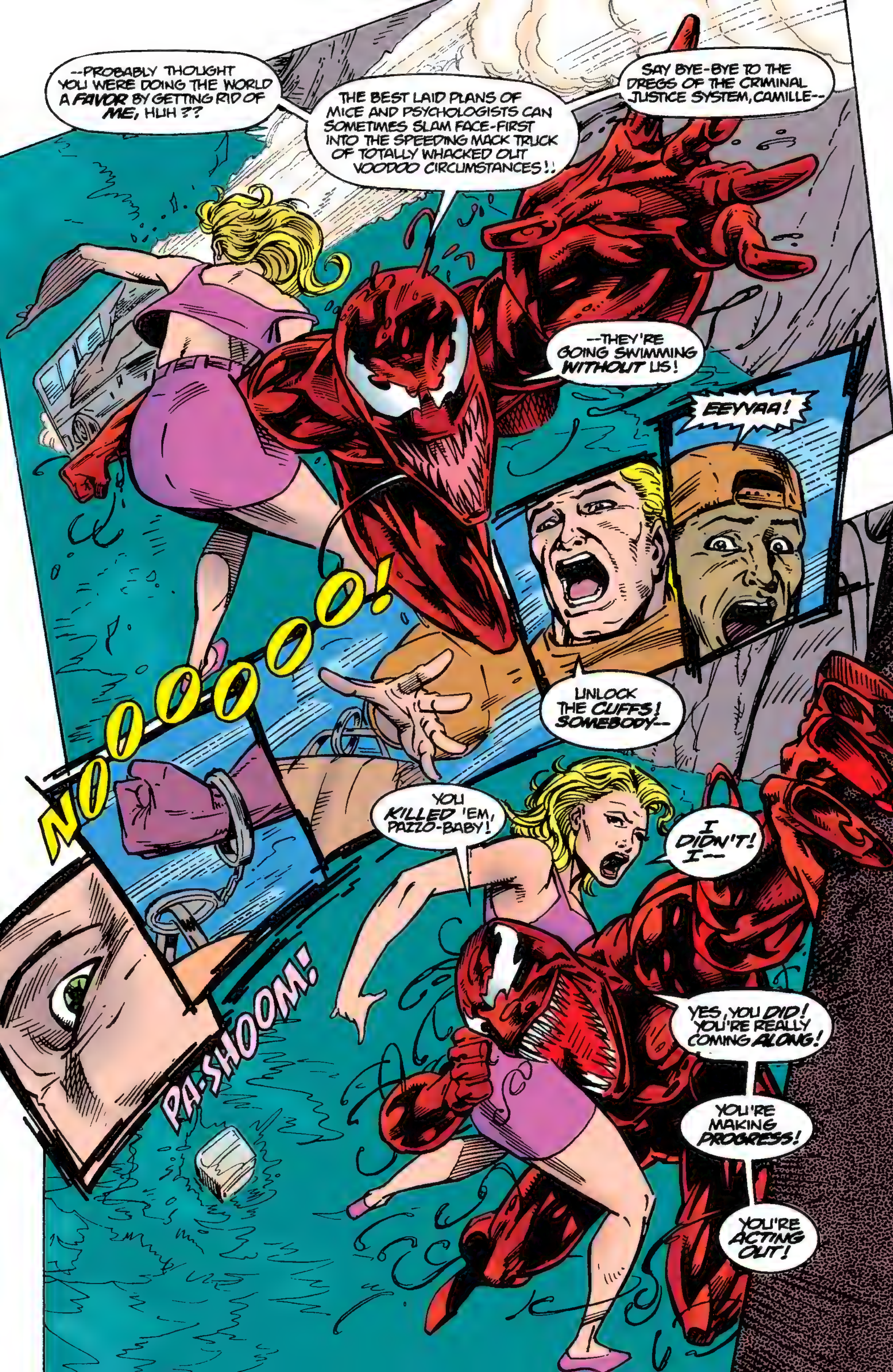

HOO NK
WHAT THE--
I AIN'T BLIND, I SEE THE GIRL...
...BUT I'D RATHER TAKE MY CHANCES WITH THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD--
WHUMP
--THAN WIND UP AS MORGUE MEAT BECAUSE I DIDN'T TAKE MY SHOT!
BLAMM
AW, THIS IS TOO EASY!
LET'S SEE HOW GOOD YOUR AIM IS IF THE BUS IS OUTTA CONTROL!!!
KASADY--! WHAT ARE YOU DOING??
SCHRAKK!
UNGHHH!!
YOU'RE A MANIAC!
YOU'RE TRYIN' TO GET US ALL KILLED!!
DUHHH!! NO KIDDIN', SHERLOCK...!!

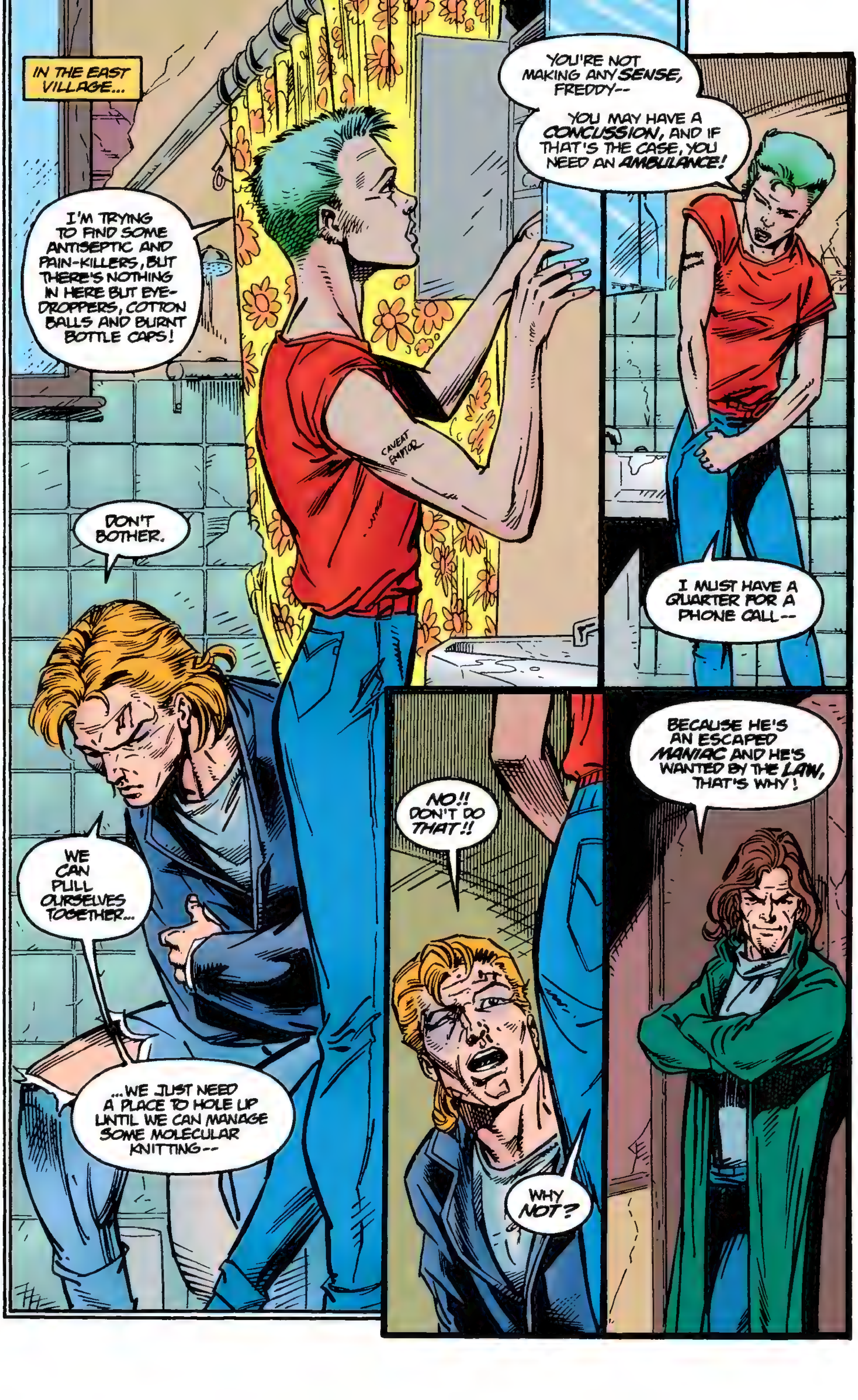

I'M DOIN' A SIGHT BETTER THAN JUST *TRYIN'*!
SCHRRRIPP!
SOMEBODY HAS TO *DRIVE* THIS THING--!!
CAMILLE, YOU ARE JUST SO *RESPONSIBLE*!!
CAR-NAGE! CAR-NAGE!
CUT US *LOOSE* AND WE'LL BE YOUR *BOYS*!
WE'LL TEAR *NEW YORK* *APART*!
OH, YOU WANT TO BE MY *GANG*, HUH??
HEY, PRETTY SHRINK-LADY! I BETCHA DIDN'T KNOW I HAD SUCH *CHARISMA*, DIDJA?
CHARISMA IS PRONOUNCED WITH A HARD *C*, CLETUS...

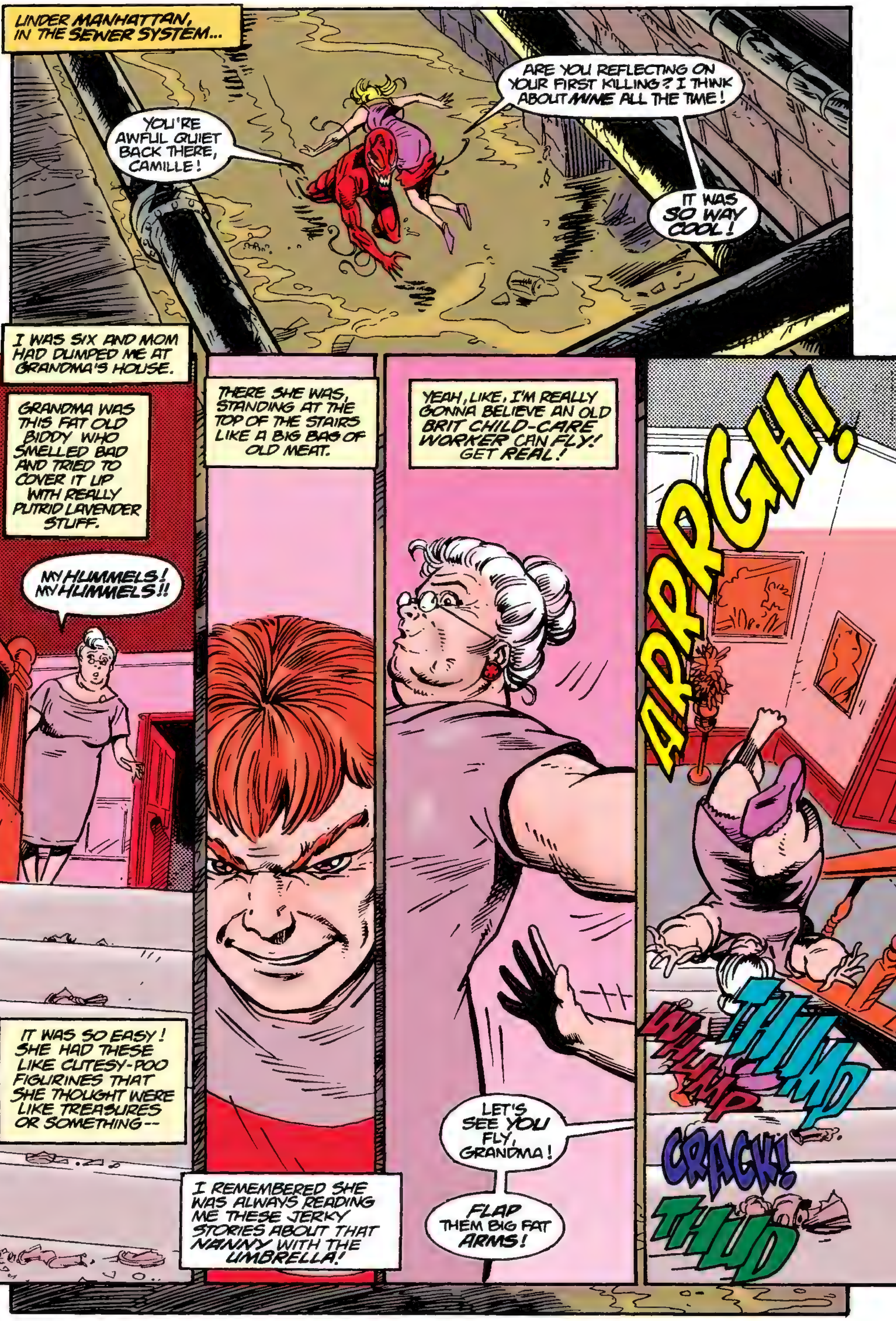

IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
THE *THIRD EYE*--THIS IS THE PLACE...
IT'S BARELY ALIVE CLIVE--!
--MOROSE, OTIOSE AND COMATOSE!
CLIVE--YOU LOOK LIKE DEATH--
I'M A LITTLE UNDER THE WEATHER TODAY--
YOU KNOW THE OWNER EIGHTY-SIXED YOU BECAUSE YOU KEEP GETTING SICK IN HERE--
WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK UPSTAIRS AND UPCHUCK ON THE NEW GIRL-CHILD-POET-IN-THE-MAKING!
UPSTAIRS, HUH?
...CLIVE GOOCH--5B.
RATS! IT'S THE FIFTH FLOOR OF A WALK-UP!
WE CAN MAKE IT...
...WE CAN HOLD OURSELVES TOGETHER...
...ESPECIALLY IF WE'RE NOT DIVERTING ENERGY TO KEEPING THE DISGUISE UP!

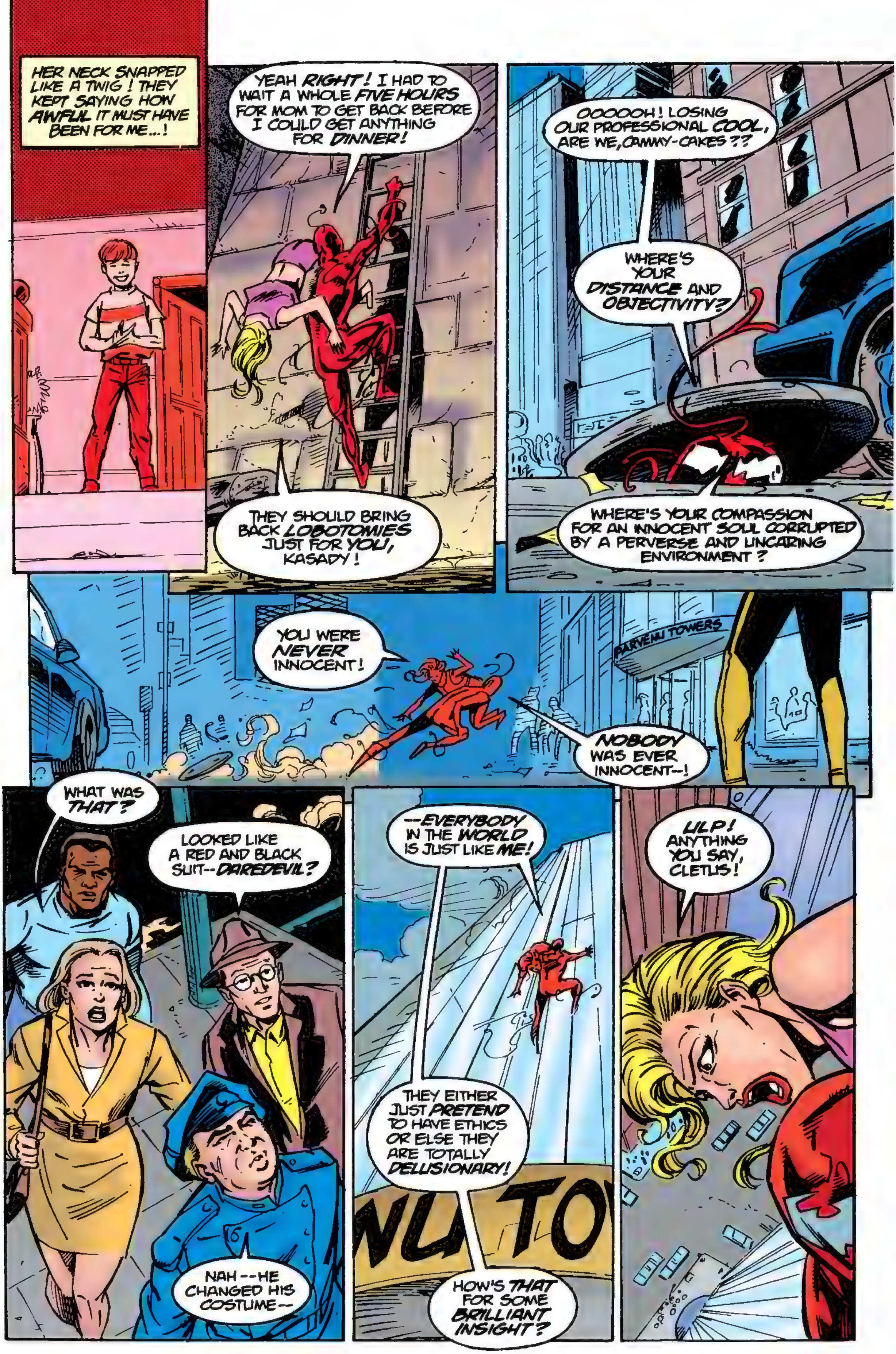

♪ ...IT'S NO TIME FOR REMONSTRATIONS, PALLIATIONS, DEMONSTRATIONS OF THE LOVE YOU NEVER SHOWED ME--NOW OR NEVER, WHATSOEVER--♪
NOK NOK
CLIVE? DID YOU LOSE YOUR KEY--?
KIRSTIN...
MR. BLOCK?
FREDDY BLOCK?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
WHAT'S ALL THAT BLACK STUFF?
YOU HAVE TO HELP ME, KIRSTIN...
I'M PRETTY BADLY HURT--
WHAT CAN I DO? OH, IF ONLY CLIVE WERE HERE--
--HEY! HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE I WAS?

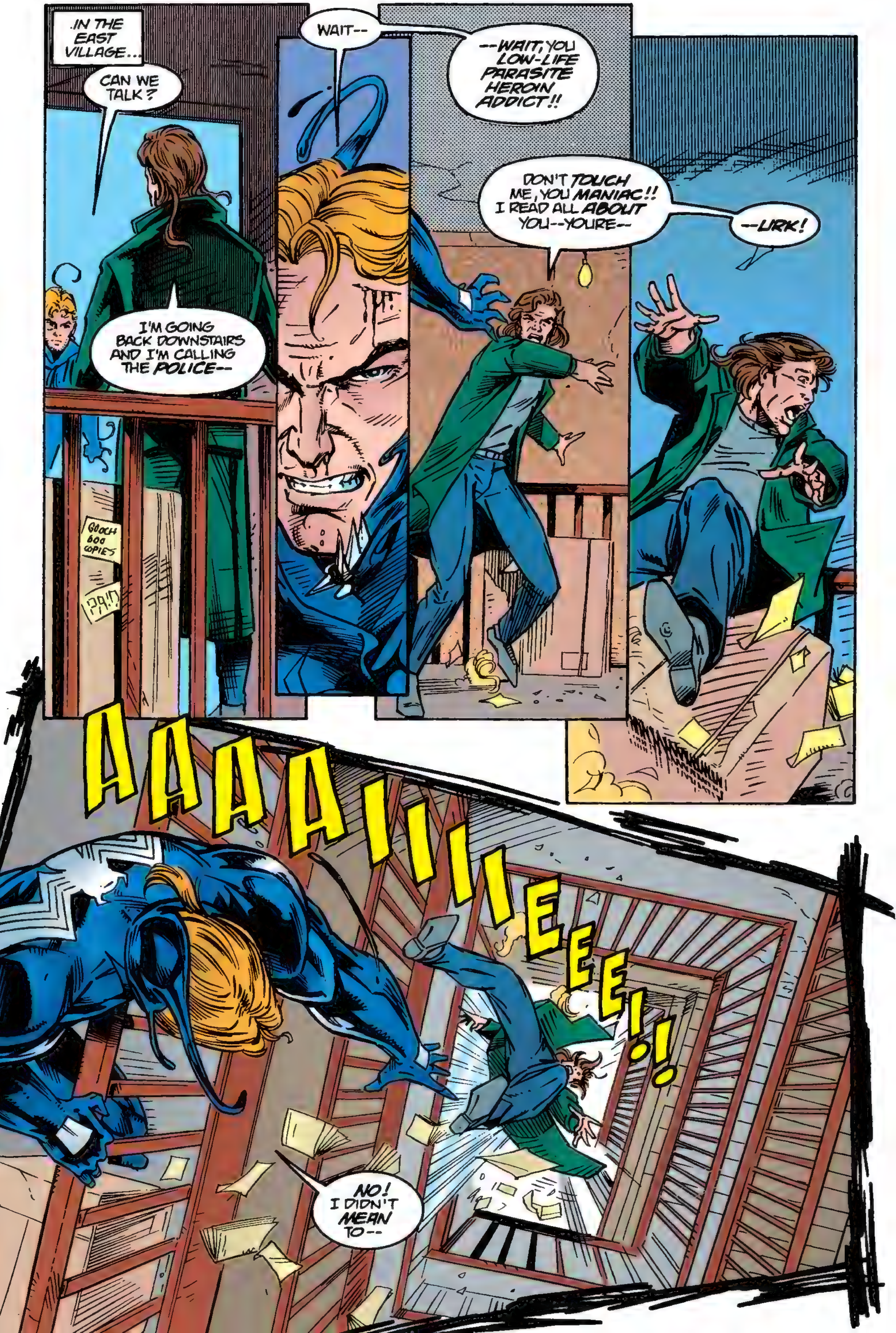

ON THE HENRY HUDSON PARKWAY...
THERE'S A *SCHOOL BUS* BROKEN DOWN ON THE BRIDGE UP AHEAD--
SCHOOL BUS
WE CAN'T BE *STOPPING* AND LOSE OUR *MOMENTUM*...
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO *PLOW* RIGHT *THROUGH* THE SNOT-NOSED LITTLE *BRATS!*
OVER MY DEAD BODY!!
I'M *IMPRESSED*, CAMILLE--!
--SUCH A *NOBLE* AND *SELFLESS* ACT, CRASHING THE BUS THROUGH THE GUARD RAIL, PLUNGING US ALL TO OUR *DOOM* TO SAVE THE HELPLESS LITTLE TYKES--!!
KA-RUNCH!

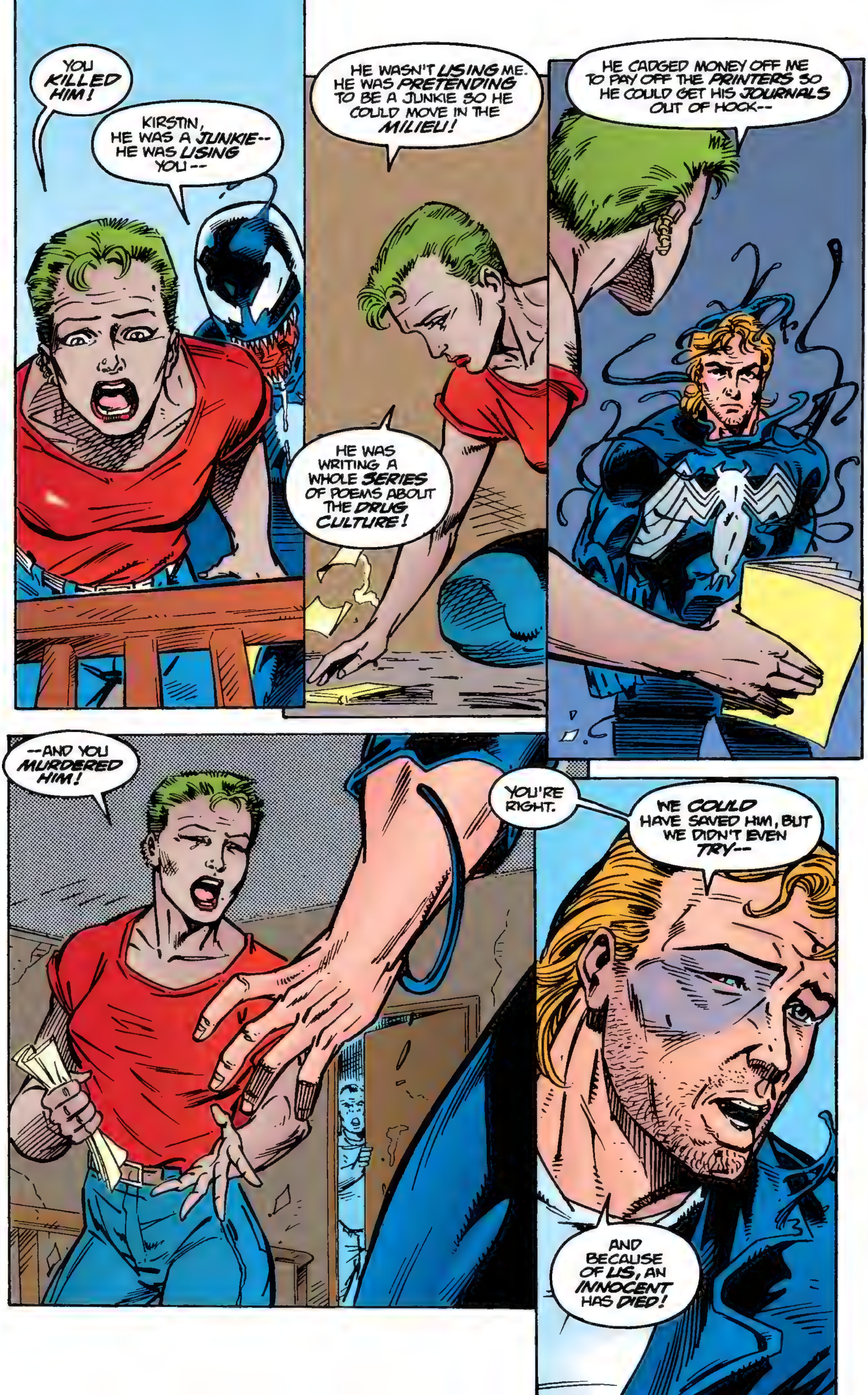

--PROBABLY THOUGHT YOU WERE DOING THE WORLD A *FAVOR* BY GETTING RID OF *ME*, HUH??
THE BEST LAID PLANS OF MICE AND PSYCHOLOGISTS CAN SOMETIMES SLAM FACE-FIRST INTO THE SPEEDING MACK TRUCK OF TOTALLY WHACKED OUT VOODOO CIRCUMSTANCES!!
SAY BYE-BYE TO THE DREGS OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, CAMILLE--
--THEY'RE GOING SWIMMING *WITHOUT* US!
EEYYAA!
NOOOOOOOO!
UNLOCK THE *CUFFS!* *SOMEBODY*--
YOU *KILLED* 'EM, PAZZO-BABY!
I DIDN'T! I--
PA-SHOOM!
YES, YOU *DID!* YOU'RE REALLY COMING *ALONG!*
YOU'RE MAKING *PROGRESS!*
YOU'RE ACTING OUT!

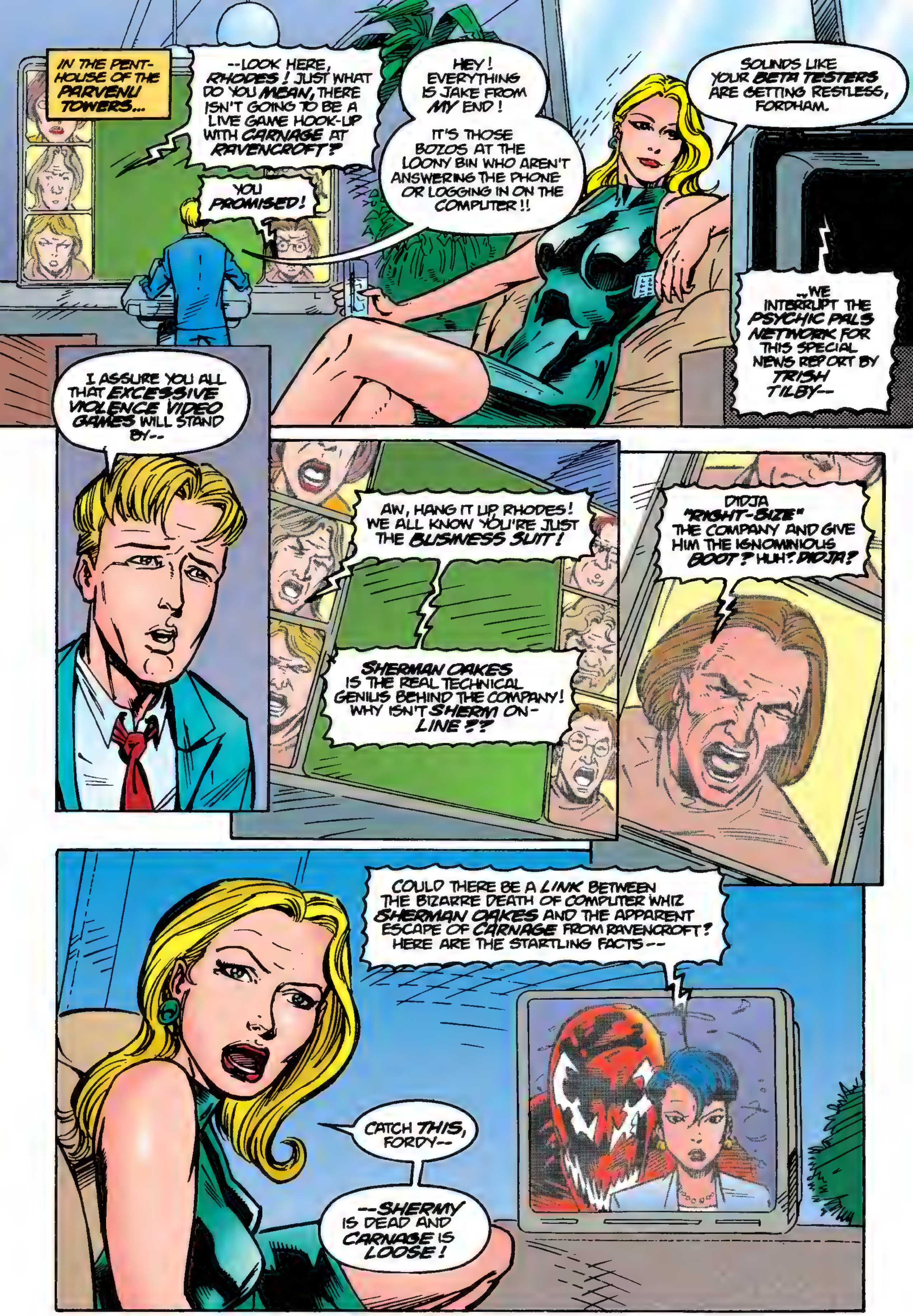

IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
I'M TRYING TO FIND SOME ANTISEPTIC AND PAIN-KILLERS, BUT THERE'S NOTHING IN HERE BUT EYE-DROPPERS, COTTON BALLS AND BURNT BOTTLE CAPS!
CAVEAT EMPTOR
DON'T BOTHER.
WE CAN PULL OURSELVES TOGETHER...
...WE JUST NEED A PLACE TO HOLE UP UNTIL WE CAN MANAGE SOME MOLECULAR KNITTING--
YOU'RE NOT MAKING ANY SENSE, FREDDY--
YOU MAY HAVE A CONCUSSION, AND IF THAT'S THE CASE, YOU NEED AN AMBULANCE!
I MUST HAVE A QUARTER FOR A PHONE CALL--
NO!! DON'T DO THAT!!
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE HE'S AN ESCAPED MANIAC AND HE'S WANTED BY THE LAW, THAT'S WHY!

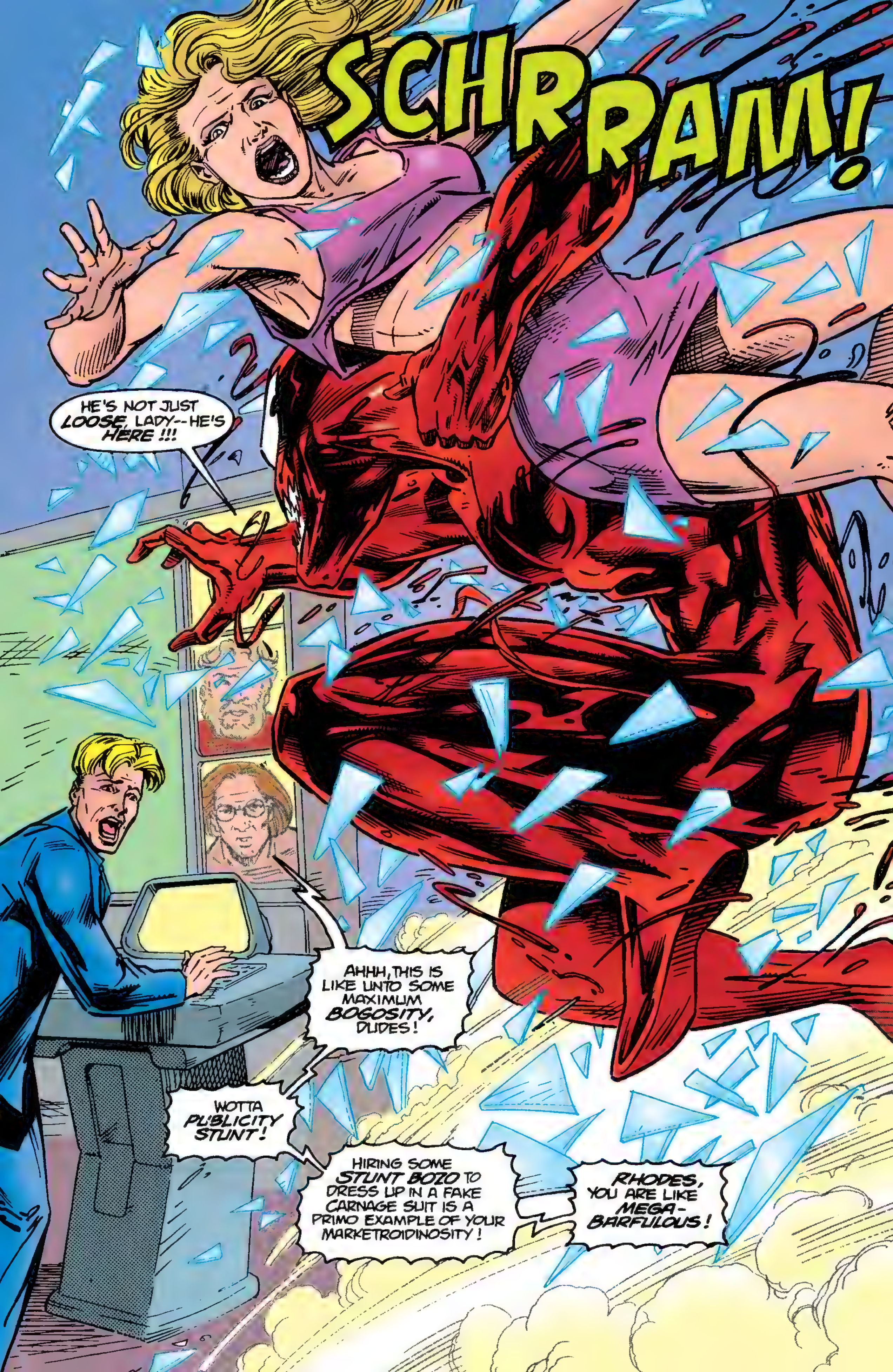

UNDER MANHATTAN, IN THE SEWER SYSTEM...
YOU'RE AWFUL QUIET BACK THERE, CAMILLE!
ARE YOU REFLECTING ON YOUR FIRST KILLING? I THINK ABOUT MINE ALL THE TIME!
IT WAS SO WAY COOL!
I WAS SIX AND MOM HAD DUMPED ME AT GRANDMA'S HOUSE.
GRANDMA WAS THIS FAT OLD BIDDY WHO SMELLED BAD AND TRIED TO COVER IT UP WITH REALLY PUTRID LAVENDER STUFF.
MY HUMMELS! MY HUMMELS!!
IT WAS SO EASY! SHE HAD THESE LIKE CUTESY-POO FIGURINES THAT SHE THOUGHT WERE LIKE TREASURES OR SOMETHING--
THERE SHE WAS, STANDING AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS LIKE A BIG BAG OF OLD MEAT.
I REMEMBERED SHE WAS ALWAYS READING ME THESE JERKY STORIES ABOUT THAT NANNY WITH THE UMBRELLA!
YEAH, LIKE, I'M REALLY GONNA BELIEVE AN OLD BRIT CHILD-CARE WORKER CAN FLY! GET REAL!
LET'S SEE YOU FLY, GRANDMA!
FLAP THEM BIG FAT ARMS!
ARRGH!
THUMP
WHUMP
CRACK!
THUD

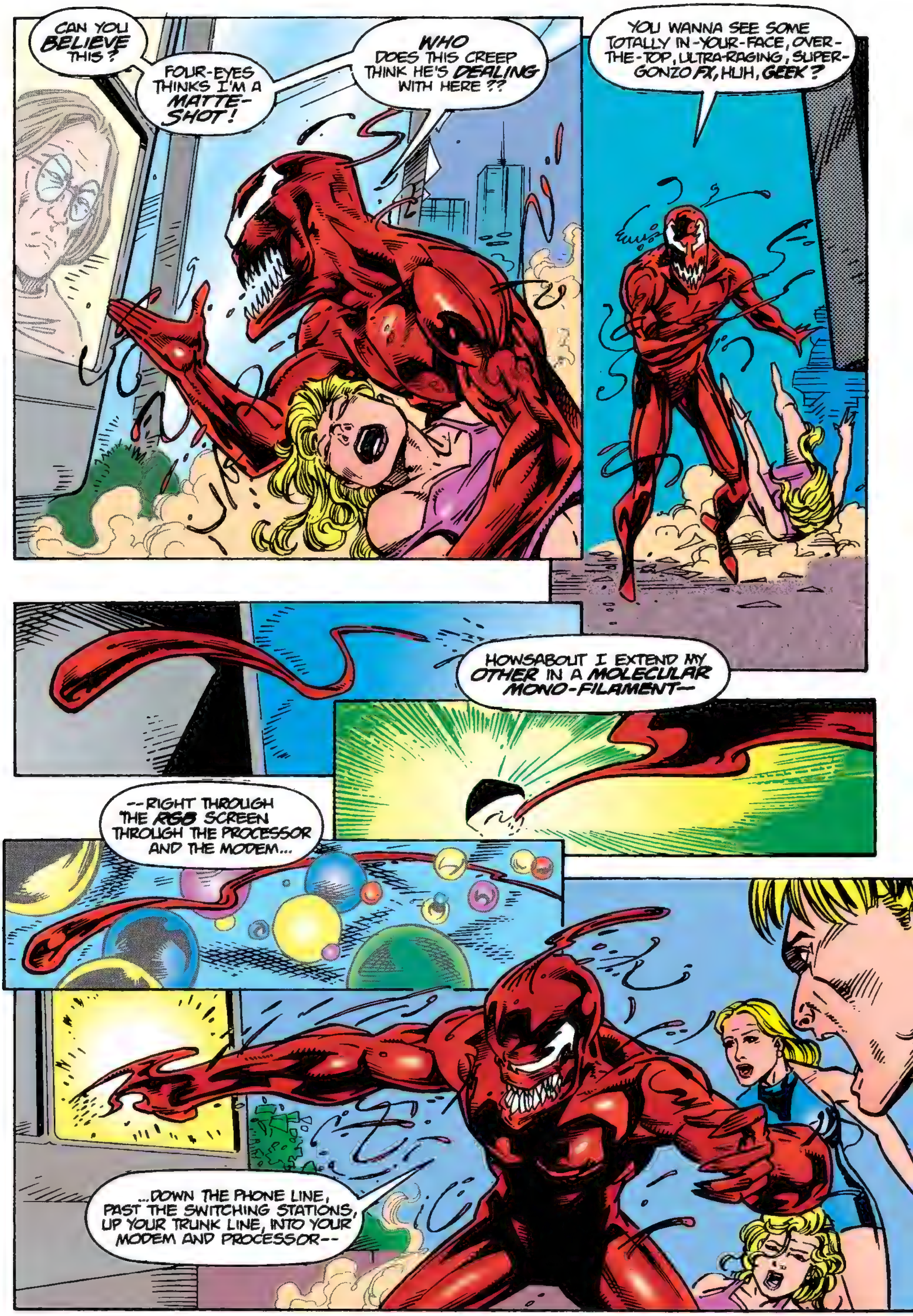

HER NECK SNAPPED LIKE A TWIG! THEY KEPT SAYING HOW AWFUL IT MUST HAVE BEEN FOR ME...!
YEAH RIGHT! I HAD TO WAIT A WHOLE FIVE HOURS FOR MOM TO GET BACK BEFORE I COULD GET ANYTHING FOR DINNER!
THEY SHOULD BRING BACK LOBOTOMIES JUST FOR YOU, KASADY!
OOOOOH! LOSING OUR PROFESSIONAL COOL, ARE WE, CAMMY-CAKES??
WHERE'S YOUR DISTANCE AND OBJECTIVITY?
WHERE'S YOUR COMPASSION FOR AN INNOCENT SOUL CORRUPTED BY A PERVERSE AND UNCARING ENVIRONMENT?
YOU WERE NEVER INNOCENT!
PARVENU TOWERS
NOBODY WAS EVER INNOCENT--!
WHAT WAS THAT?
LOOKED LIKE A RED AND BLACK SUIT--DAREDEVIL?
NAH--HE CHANGED HIS COSTUME--
--EVERYBODY IN THE WORLD IS JUST LIKE ME!
THEY EITHER JUST PRETEND TO HAVE ETHICS OR ELSE THEY ARE TOTALLY DELUSIONARY!
NU TO
HOW'S THAT FOR SOME BRILLIANT INSIGHT?
ULP! ANYTHING YOU SAY, CLETUS!

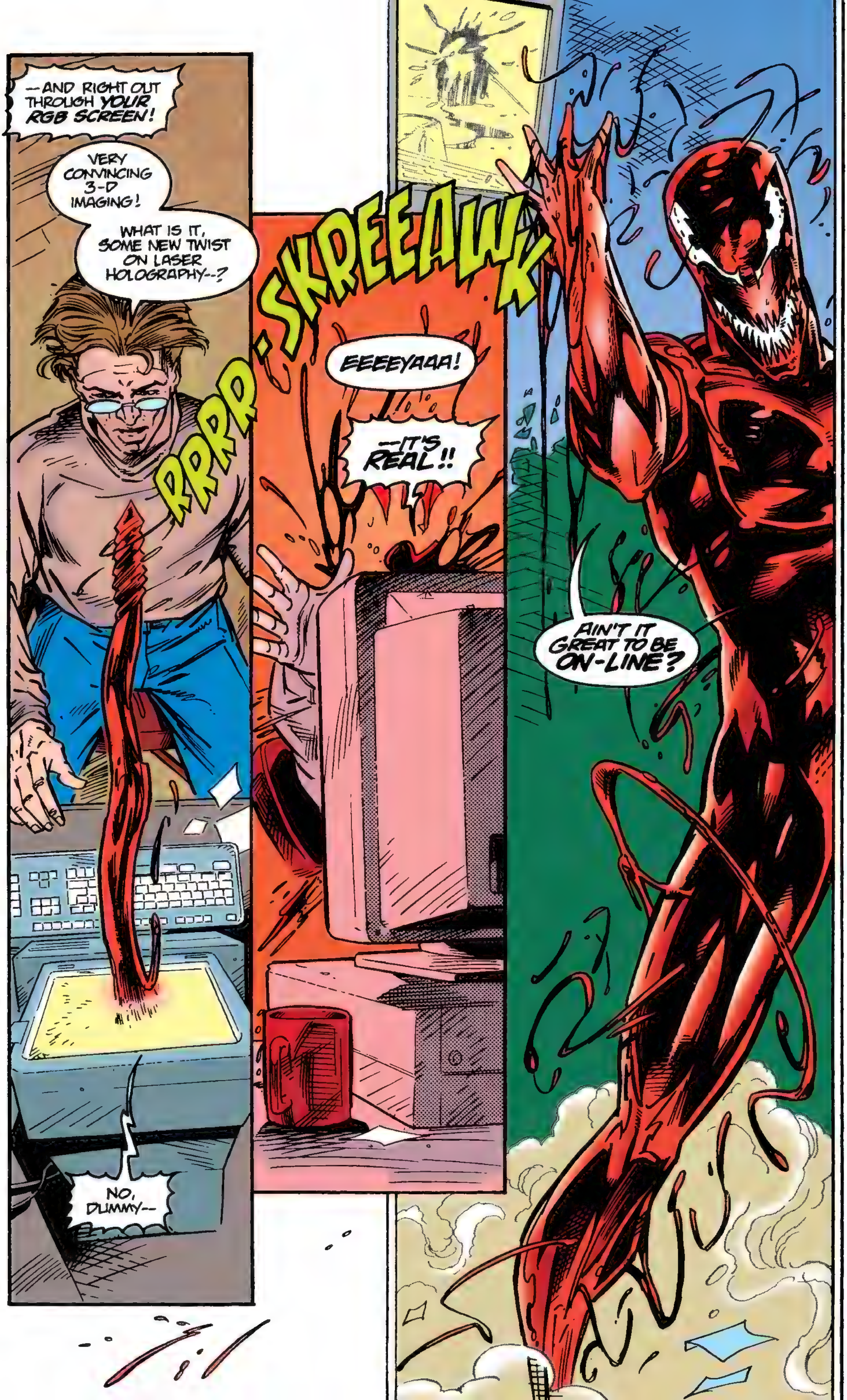

...IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
CAN WE TALK?
I'M GOING BACK DOWNSTAIRS AND I'M CALLING THE POLICE--
GOOCH 600 COPIES
WAIT--
--WAIT, YOU LOW-LIFE PARASITE HEROIN ADDICT!!
DON'T TOUCH ME, YOU MANIAC!! I READ ALL ABOUT YOU--YOU'RE--
--URK!
AAAAIIIIEEEE!!!
NO! I DIDN'T MEAN TO--

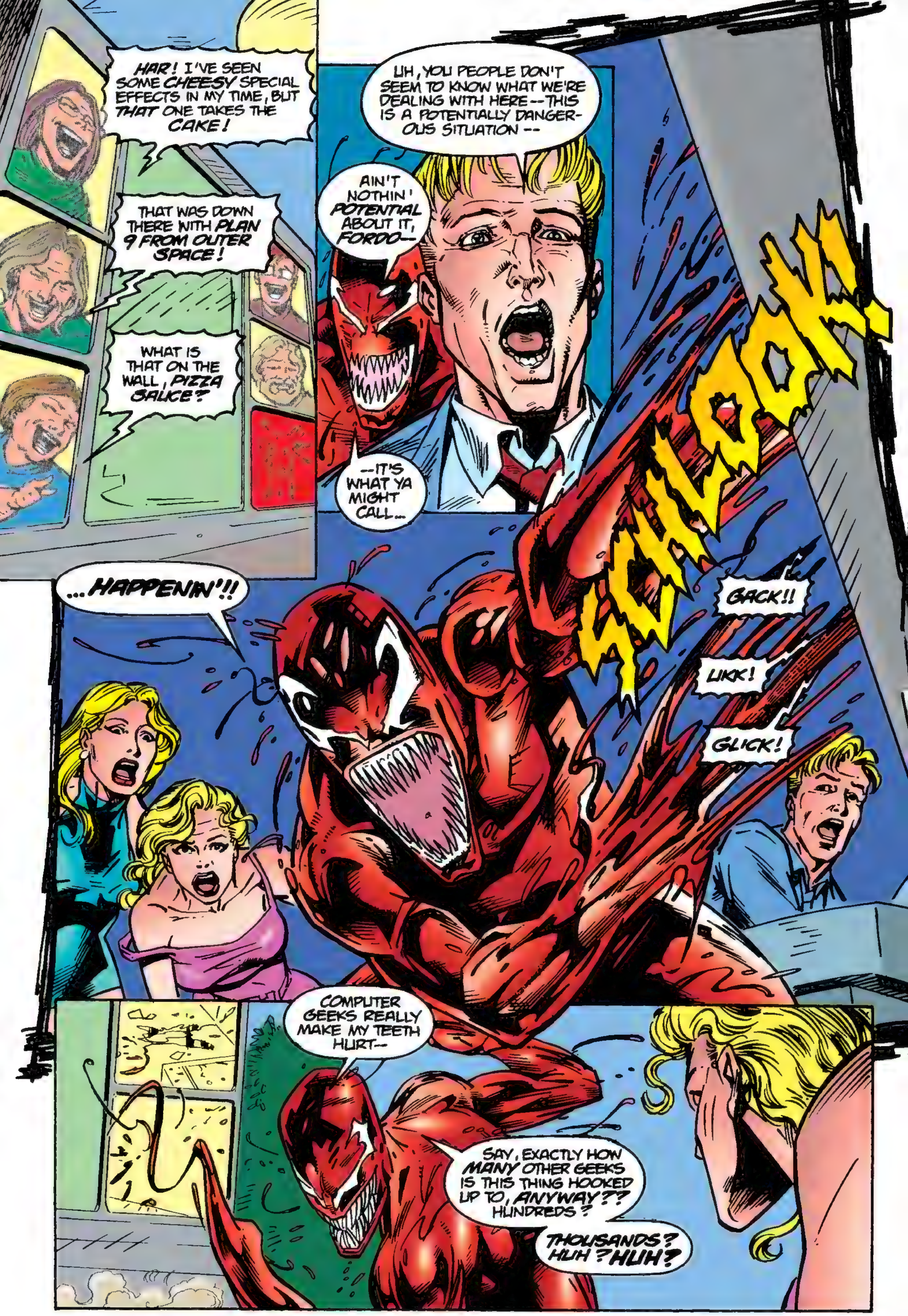

YOU KILLED HIM!
KIRSTIN, HE WAS A JUNKIE-- HE WAS USING YOU--
HE WASN'T USING ME. HE WAS PRETENDING TO BE A JUNKIE SO HE COULD MOVE IN THE MILIEU!
HE WAS WRITING A WHOLE SERIES OF POEMS ABOUT THE DRUG CULTURE!
HE CADGED MONEY OFF ME TO PAY OFF THE PRINTERS SO HE COULD GET HIS JOURNALS OUT OF HOCK--
--AND YOU MURDERED HIM!
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WE COULD HAVE SAVED HIM, BUT WE DIDN'T EVEN TRY--
AND BECAUSE OF US, AN INNOCENT HAS DIED!

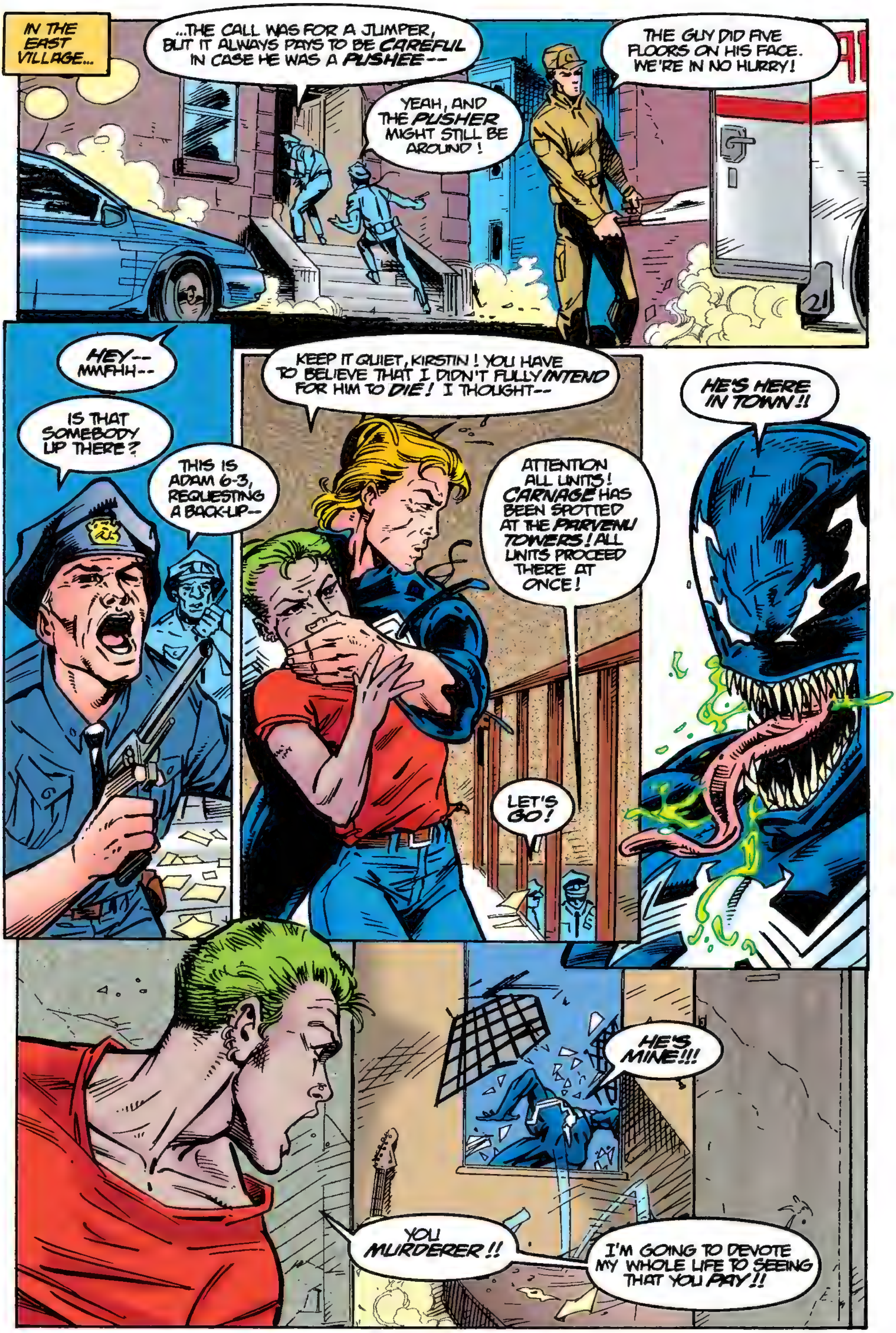

IN THE PENT-HOUSE OF THE PARVENU TOWERS...
--LOOK HERE, RHODES! JUST WHAT DO YOU MEAN, THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE A LIVE GAME HOOK-UP WITH CARNAGE AT RAVENCROFT?
YOU PROMISED!
HEY! EVERYTHING IS JAKE FROM MY END! IT'S THOSE BOZOS AT THE LOONY BIN WHO AREN'T ANSWERING THE PHONE OR LOGGING IN ON THE COMPUTER!!
SOUNDS LIKE YOUR BETA TESTERS ARE GETTING RESTLESS, FORDHAM.
..WE INTERRUPT THE PSYCHIC PALS NETWORK FOR THIS SPECIAL NEWS REPORT BY TRISH TILBY--
I ASSURE YOU ALL THAT EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE VIDEO GAMES WILL STAND BY--
AW, HANG IT UP RHODES! WE ALL KNOW YOU'RE JUST THE BUSINESS SUIT!
SHERMAN OAKES IS THE REAL TECHNICAL GENIUS BEHIND THE COMPANY! WHY ISN'T SHERM ON-LINE??
DIDJA "RIGHT-SIZE" THE COMPANY AND GIVE HIM THE IGNOMINIOUS BOOT? HUH? DIDJA?
COULD THERE BE A LINK BETWEEN THE BIZARRE DEATH OF COMPUTER WHIZ SHERMAN OAKES AND THE APPARENT ESCAPE OF CARNAGE FROM RAVENCROFT? HERE ARE THE STARTLING FACTS--
CATCH THIS, FORDY--
--SHERMY IS DEAD AND CARNAGE IS LOOSE!

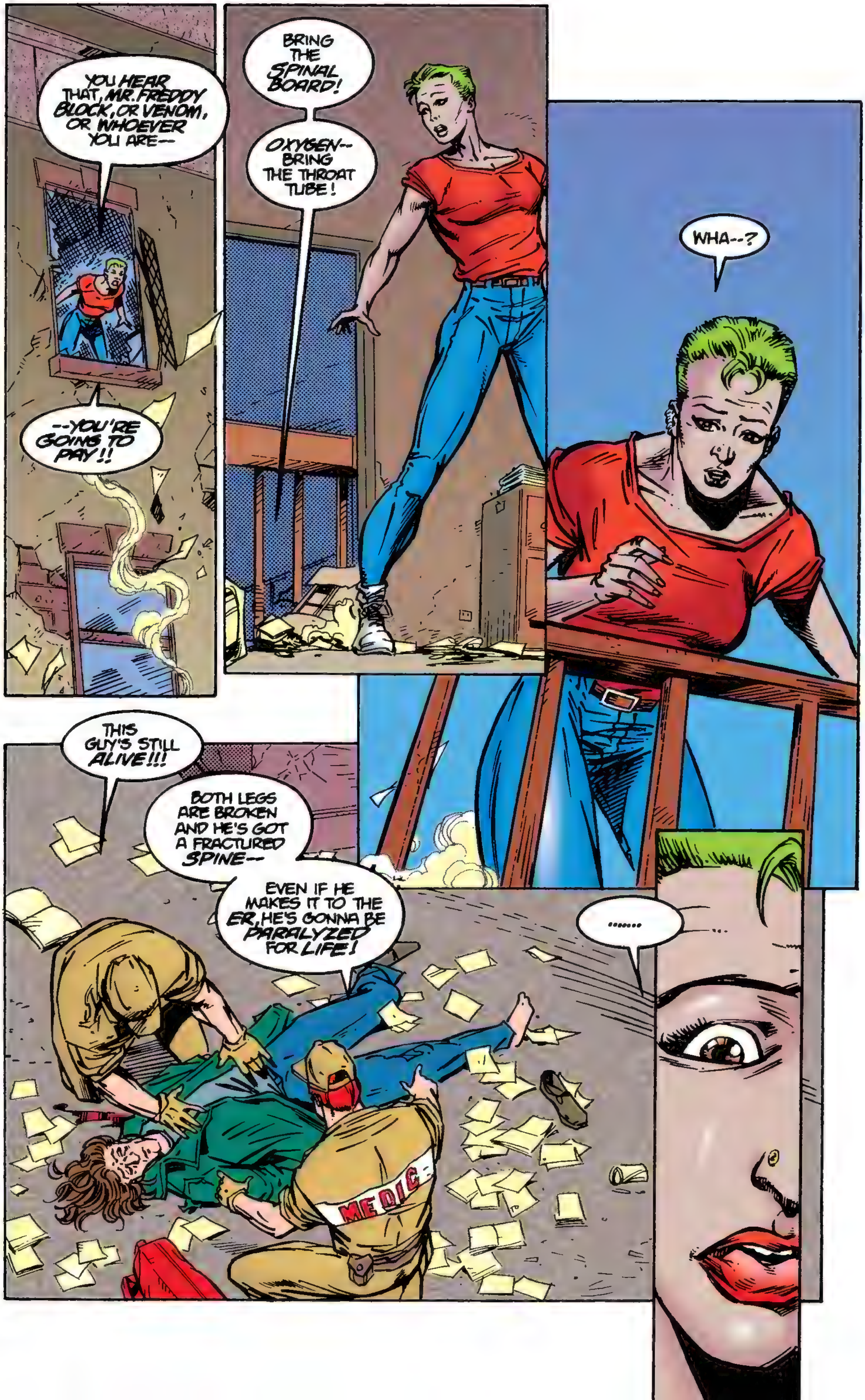

SCHRRAM!
HE'S NOT JUST *LOOSE*, LADY--HE'S *HERE* !!!
AHHH, THIS IS LIKE UNTO SOME MAXIMUM *BOGOSITY*, DUDES!
WOTTA *PUBLICITY STUNT*!
HIRING SOME *STUNT BOZO* TO DRESS UP IN A FAKE CARNAGE SUIT IS A PRIMO EXAMPLE OF YOUR MARKETROIDINOSITY!
RHODES, YOU ARE LIKE *MEGA-BARFULOUS*!

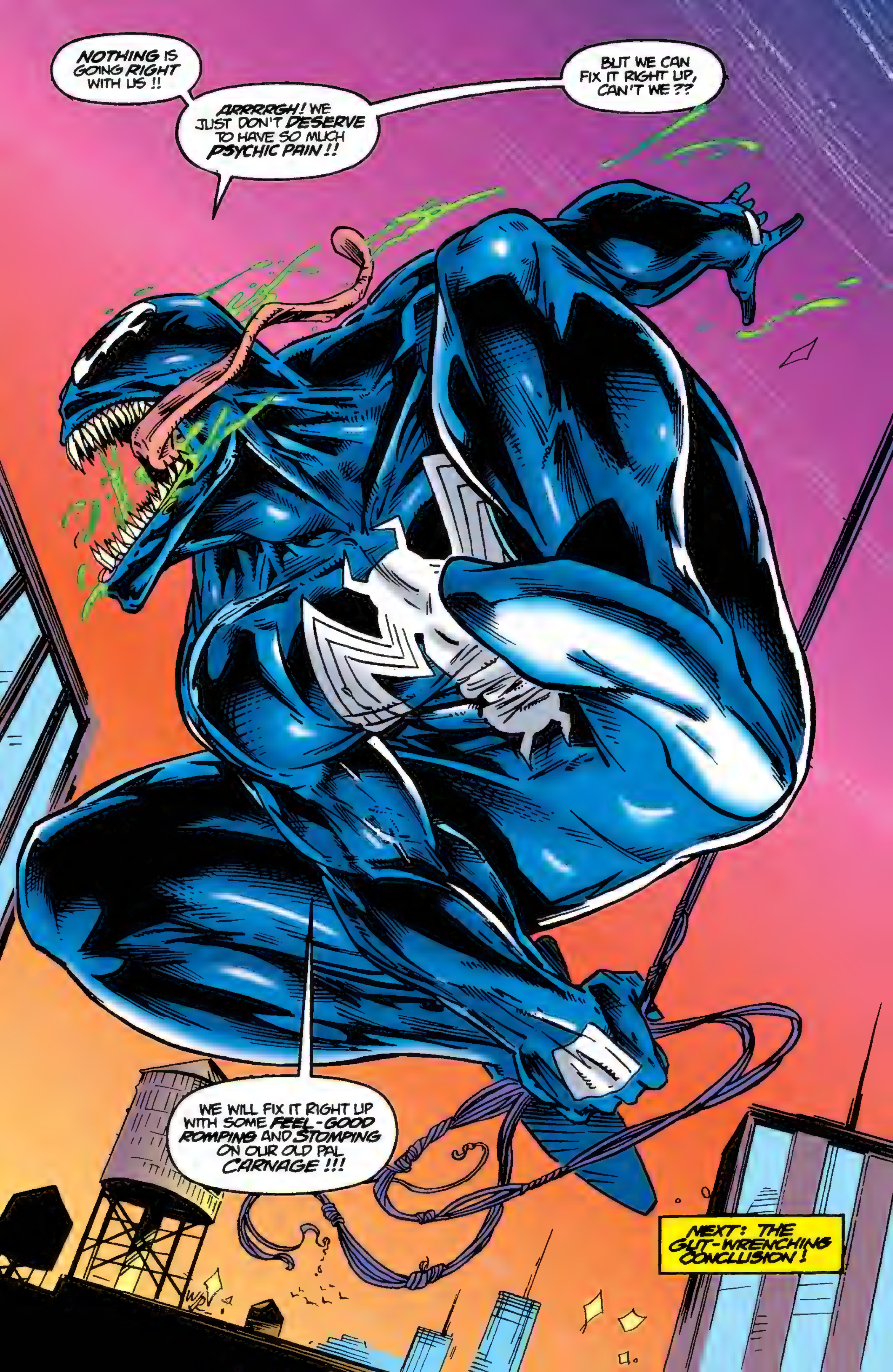

CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS?
FOUR-EYES THINKS I'M A MATTE-SHOT!
WHO DOES THIS CREEP THINK HE'S DEALING WITH HERE??
YOU WANNA SEE SOME TOTALLY IN-YOUR-FACE, OVER-THE-TOP, ULTRA-RAGING, SUPER-GONZO FX, HUH, GEEK?
HOWSABOUT I EXTEND MY OTHER IN A MOLECULAR MONO-FILAMENT--
--RIGHT THROUGH THE RGB SCREEN THROUGH THE PROCESSOR AND THE MODEM...
...DOWN THE PHONE LINE, PAST THE SWITCHING STATIONS, UP YOUR TRUNK LINE, INTO YOUR MODEM AND PROCESSOR--

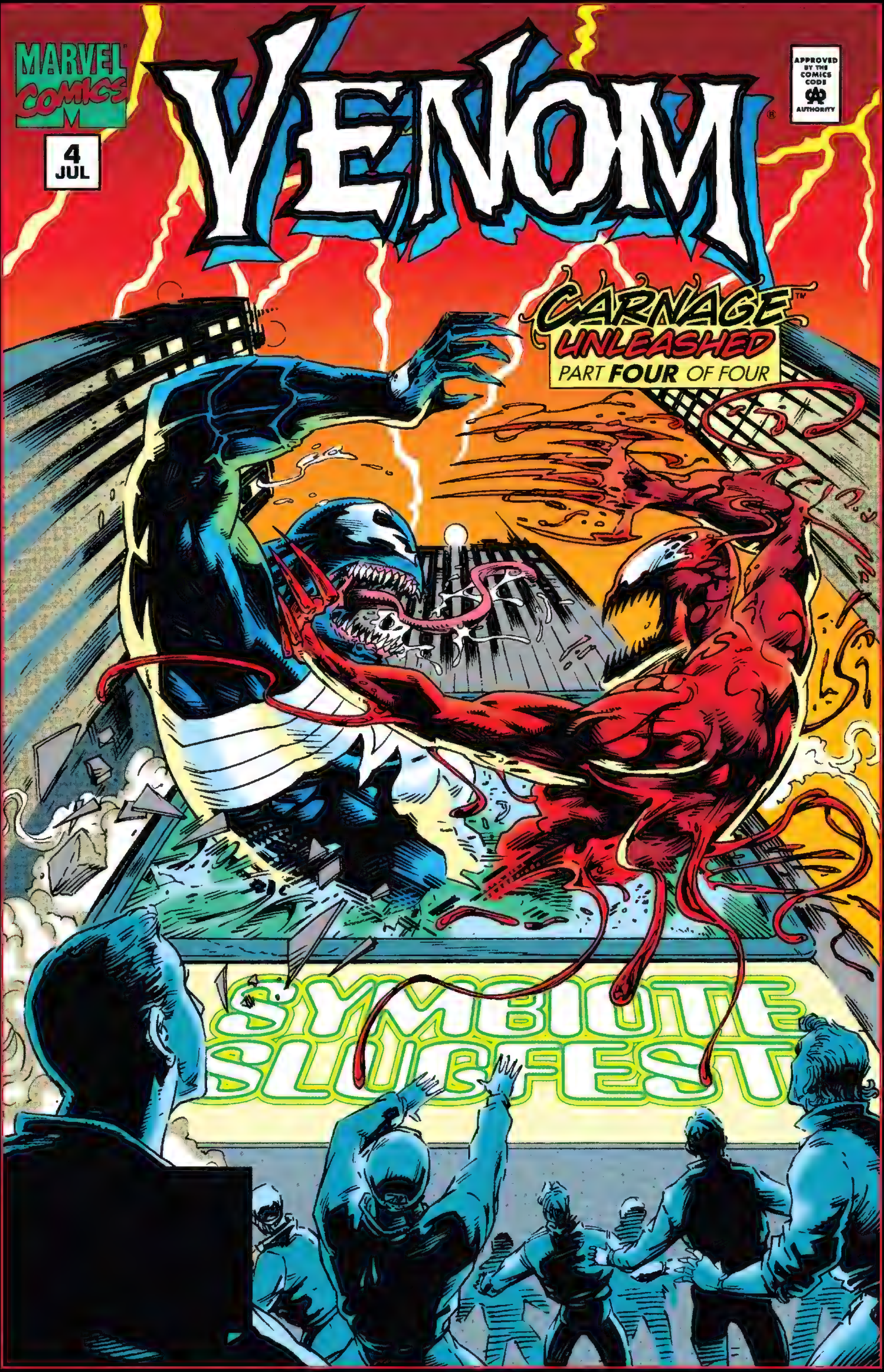

—AND RIGHT OUT THROUGH YOUR RGB SCREEN!
VERY CONVINCING 3-D IMAGING!
WHAT IS IT, SOME NEW TWIST ON LASER HOLOGRAPHY--?
NO, DUMMY--
RRRR-SKREEAWK
EEEEYAAA!
—IT'S REAL!!
AIN'T IT GREAT TO BE ON-LINE?


HAR! I'VE SEEN SOME CHEESY SPECIAL EFFECTS IN MY TIME, BUT THAT ONE TAKES THE CAKE!
THAT WAS DOWN THERE WITH PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE!
WHAT IS THAT ON THE WALL, PIZZA SAUCE?
UH, YOU PEOPLE DON'T SEEM TO KNOW WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH HERE--THIS IS A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION--
AIN'T NOTHIN' POTENTIAL ABOUT IT, FORDO--
--IT'S WHAT YA MIGHT CALL...
SCHLOOK!
...HAPPENIN'!!
GACK!!
UKK!
GLICK!
COMPUTER GEEKS REALLY MAKE MY TEETH HURT--
SAY, EXACTLY HOW MANY OTHER GEEKS IS THIS THING HOOKED UP TO, ANYWAY?? HUNDREDS?
THOUSANDS? HUH? HUH?


IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
...THE CALL WAS FOR A JUMPER, BUT IT ALWAYS PAYS TO BE *CAREFUL* IN CASE HE WAS A *PUSHEE*--
YEAH, AND THE *PUSHER* MIGHT STILL BE AROUND!
THE GUY DID FIVE FLOORS ON HIS FACE. WE'RE IN NO HURRY!
21
HEY-- MMFHH--
IS THAT SOMEBODY UP THERE?
THIS IS ADAM 6-3, REQUESTING A BACK-UP--
KEEP IT QUIET, KIRSTIN! YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE THAT I DIDN'T FULLY *INTEND* FOR HIM TO *DIE*! I THOUGHT--
ATTENTION ALL UNITS! *CARNAGE* HAS BEEN SPOTTED AT THE *PARVENU TOWERS*! ALL UNITS PROCEED THERE AT ONCE!
LET'S GO!
HE'S HERE IN TOWN!!
HE'S MINE!!!
YOU MURDERER!!
I'M GOING TO DEVOTE MY WHOLE LIFE TO SEEING THAT YOU *PAY*!!


YOU HEAR THAT, MR. FREDDY BLOCK, OR VENOM, OR WHOEVER YOU ARE--
--YOU'RE GOING TO PAY!!
BRING THE SPINAL BOARD!
OXYGEN-- BRING THE THROAT TUBE!
WHA--?
THIS GUY'S STILL ALIVE!!!
BOTH LEGS ARE BROKEN AND HE'S GOT A FRACTURED SPINE--
EVEN IF HE MAKES IT TO THE ER, HE'S GONNA BE PARALYZED FOR LIFE!
......
MEDIC


NOTHING IS GOING RIGHT WITH US !!
ARRRRGH! WE JUST DON'T DESERVE TO HAVE SO MUCH PSYCHIC PAIN !!
BUT WE CAN FIX IT RIGHT UP, CAN'T WE ??
WE WILL FIX IT RIGHT UP WITH SOME FEEL-GOOD ROMPING AND STOMPING ON OUR OLD PAL CARNAGE !!!
NEXT: THE GUT-WRENCHING CONCLUSION!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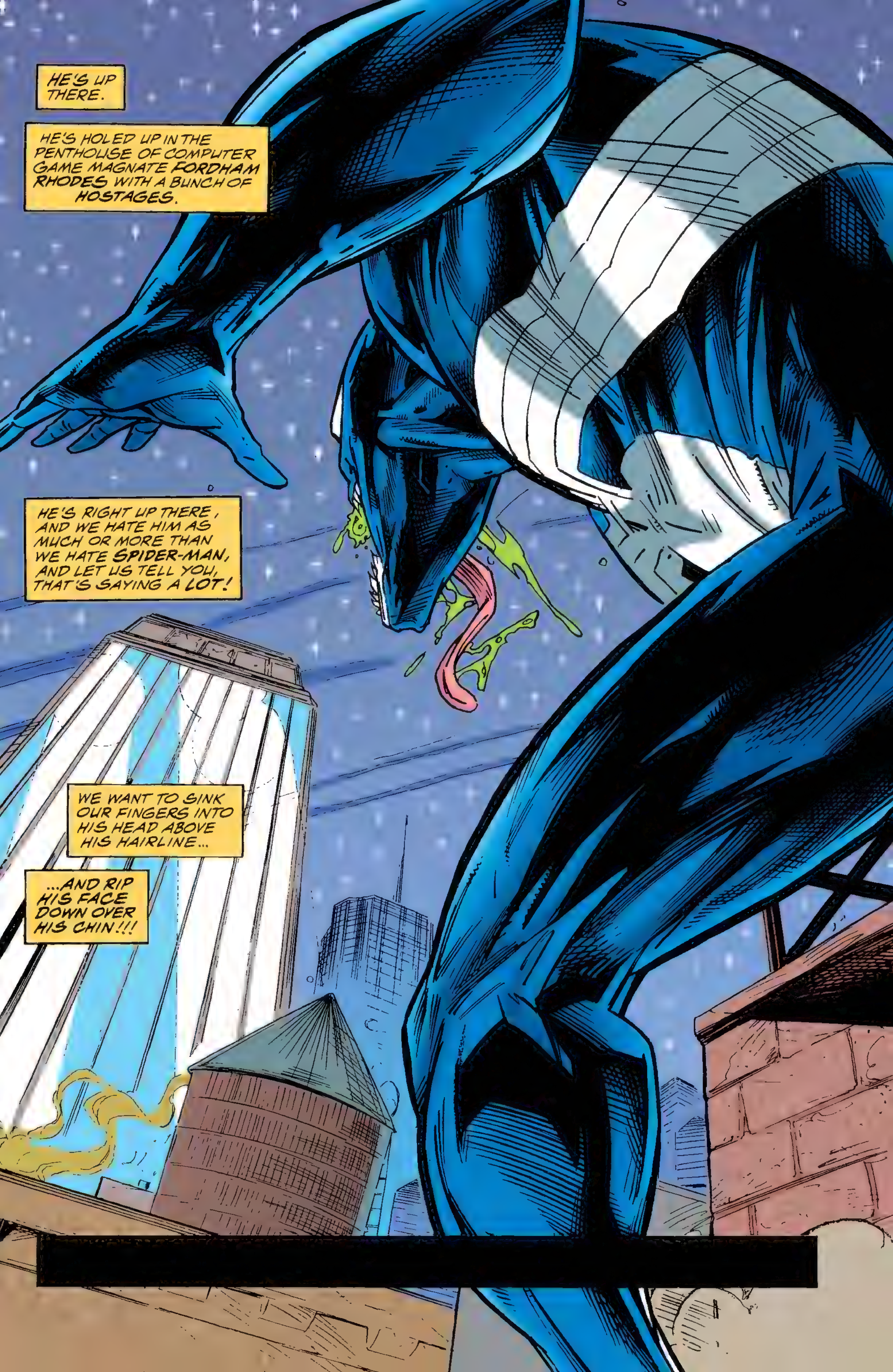
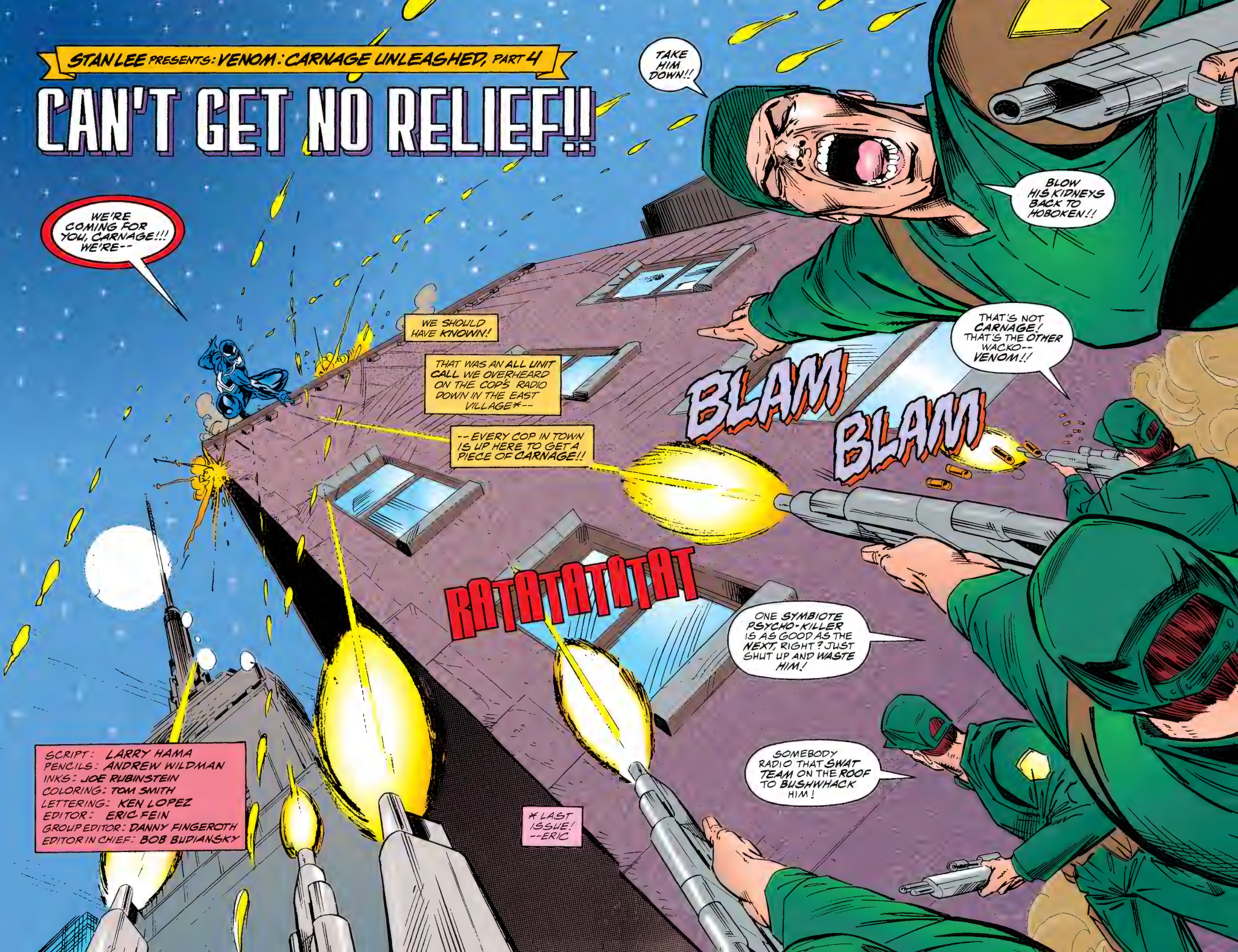
CARNAGE UNLEASHED
PART FOUR OF FOUR
SYMBIOTE SLUGFEST


HE'S UP THERE.
HE'S HOLED UP IN THE PENTHOUSE OF COMPUTER GAME MAGNATE FORDHAM RHODES WITH A BUNCH OF HOSTAGES.
HE'S RIGHT UP THERE, AND WE HATE HIM AS MUCH OR MORE THAN WE HATE SPIDER-MAN, AND LET US TELL YOU, THAT'S SAYING A LOT!
WE WANT TO SINK OUR FINGERS INTO HIS HEAD ABOVE HIS HAIRLINE...
...AND RIP HIS FACE DOWN OVER HIS CHIN!!!

[redacted]

STAN LEE PRESENTS: VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED, PART 4

CAN'T GET NO RELIEF!!


WE'RE COMING FOR YOU, CARNAGE!!! WE'RE--
WE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN!
THAT WAS AN ALL UNIT CALL WE OVERHEARD ON THE COPS' RADIO DOWN IN THE EAST VILLAGE*--
--EVERY COP IN TOWN IS UP HERE TO GET A PIECE OF CARNAGE!!
TAKE HIM DOWN!!
BLOW HIS KIDNEYS BACK TO HOBOKEN!!
THAT'S NOT CARNAGE! THAT'S THE OTHER WACKO-- VENOM!!
BLAM
BLAM
RATATATATAT
ONE SYMBIOTE PSYCHO-KILLER IS AS GOOD AS THE NEXT, RIGHT? JUST SHUT UP AND WASTE HIM!
SOMEBODY RADIO THAT SWAT TEAM ON THE ROOF TO BUSHWHACK HIM!
*LAST ISSUE! --ERIC

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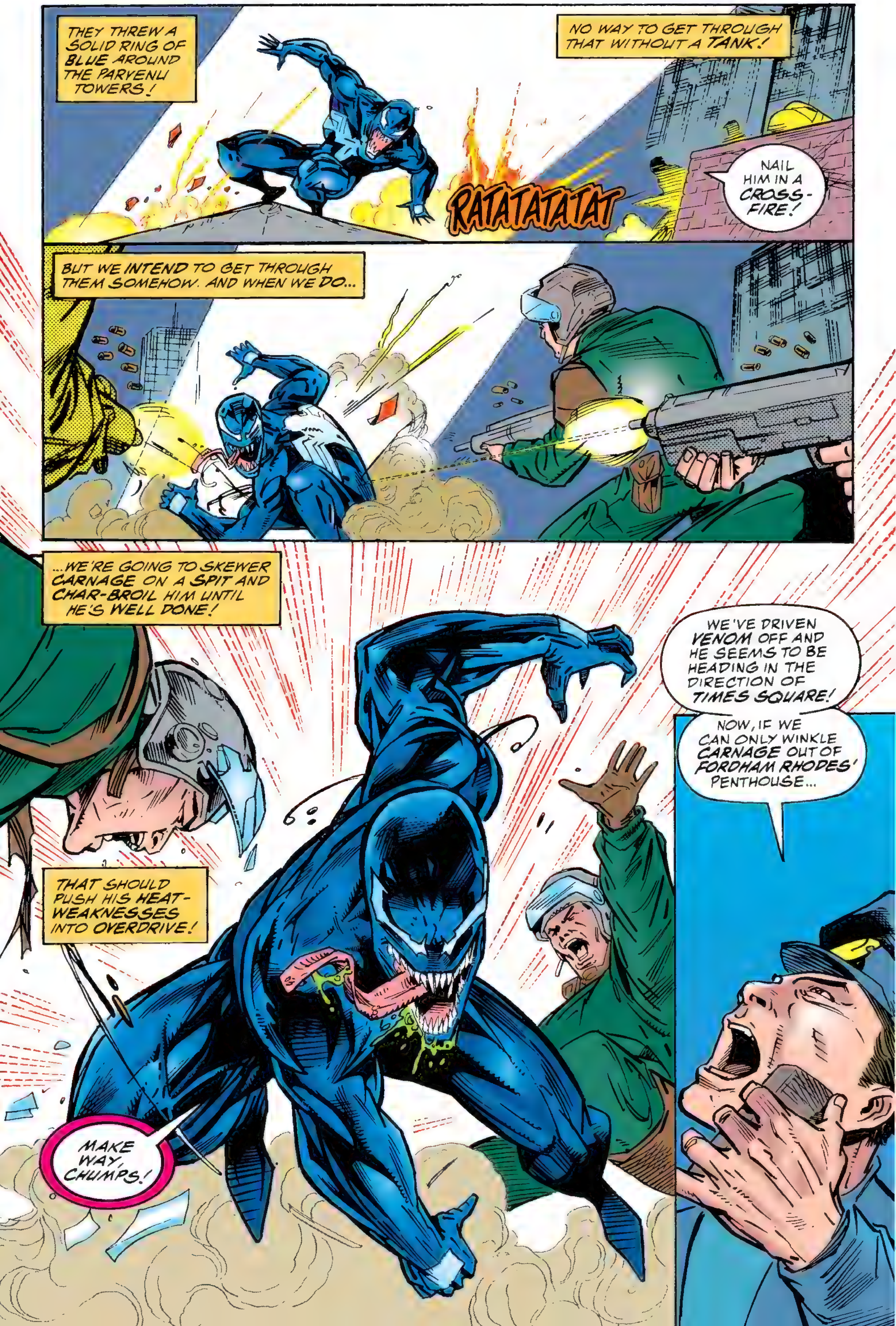
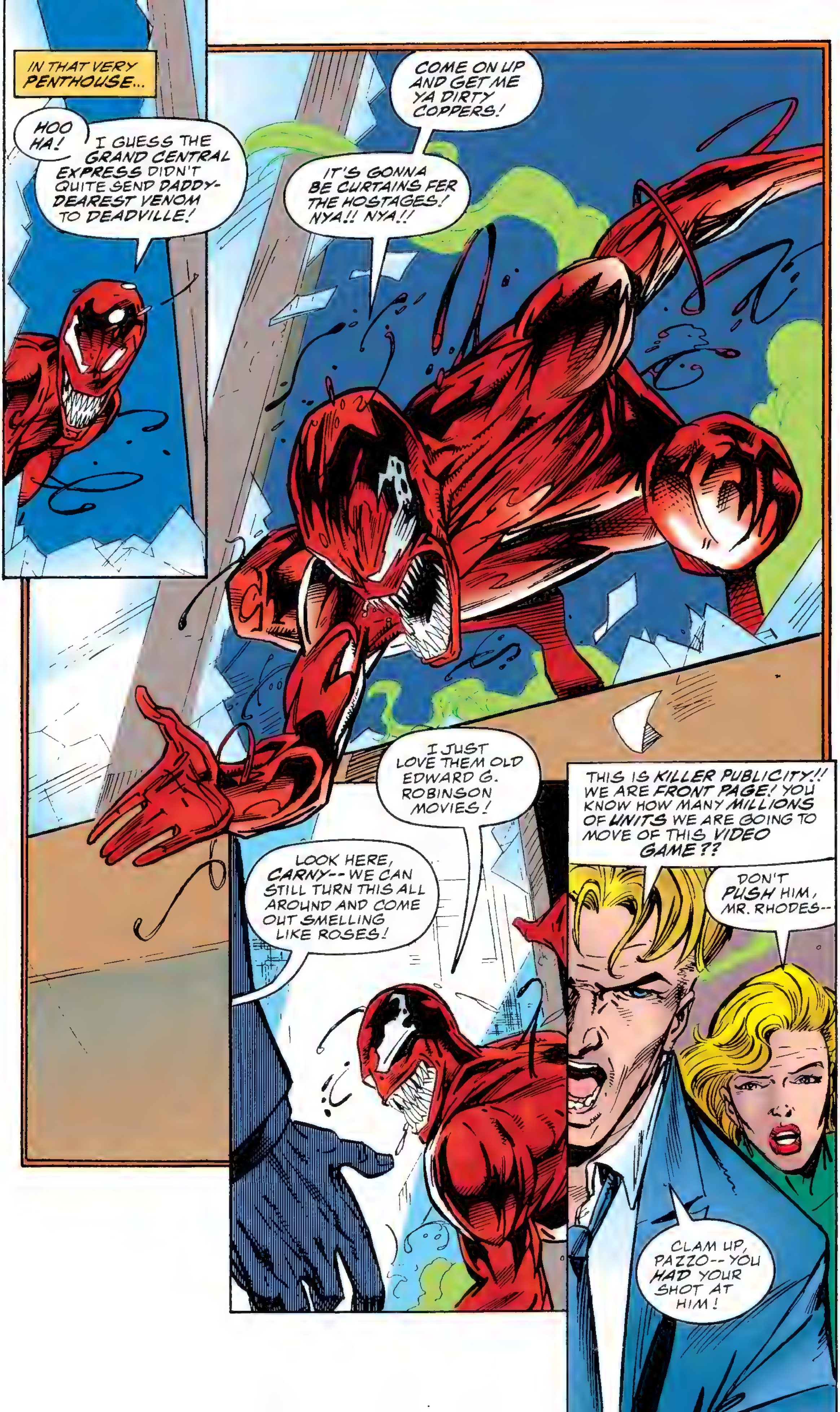
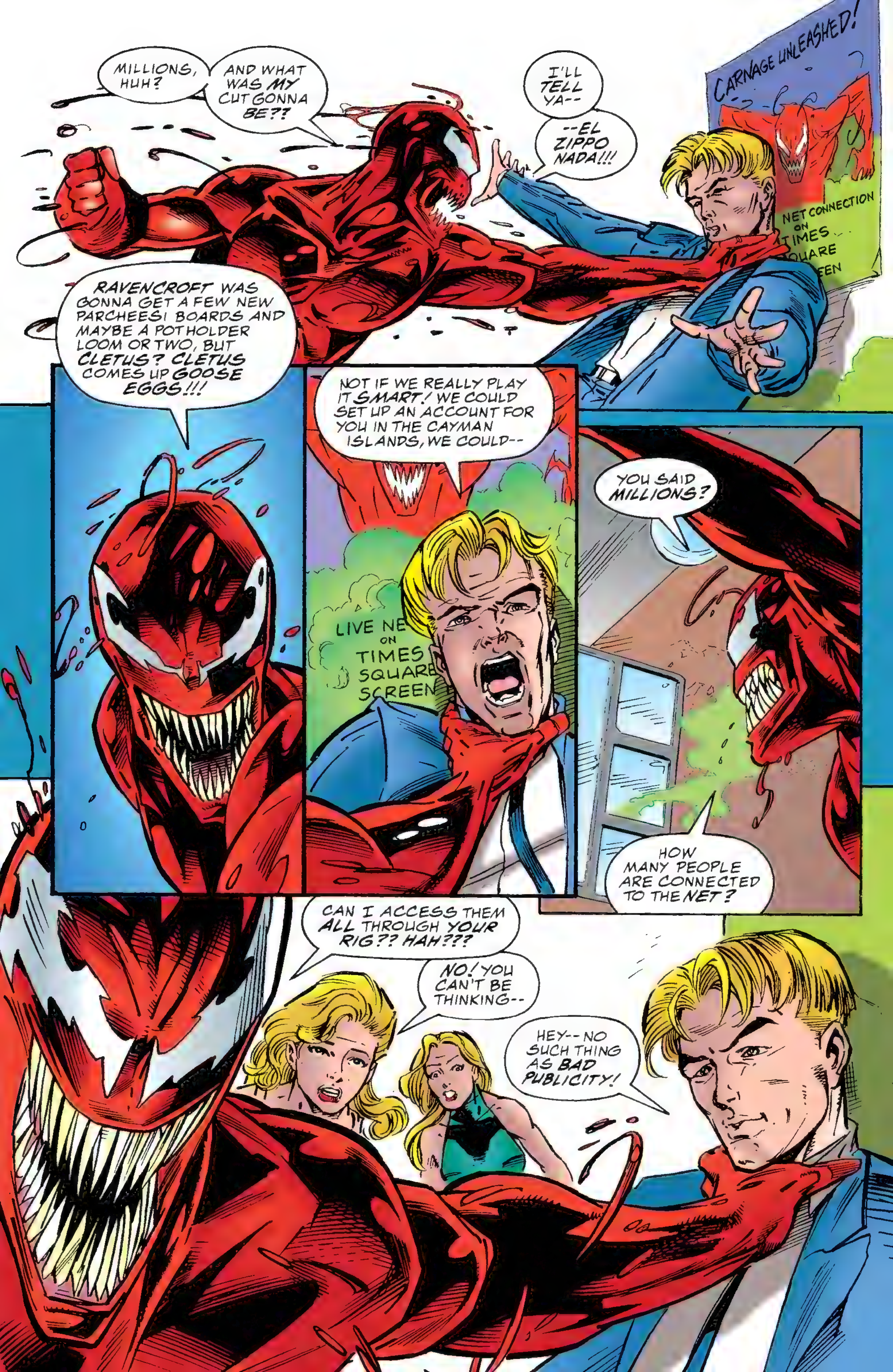
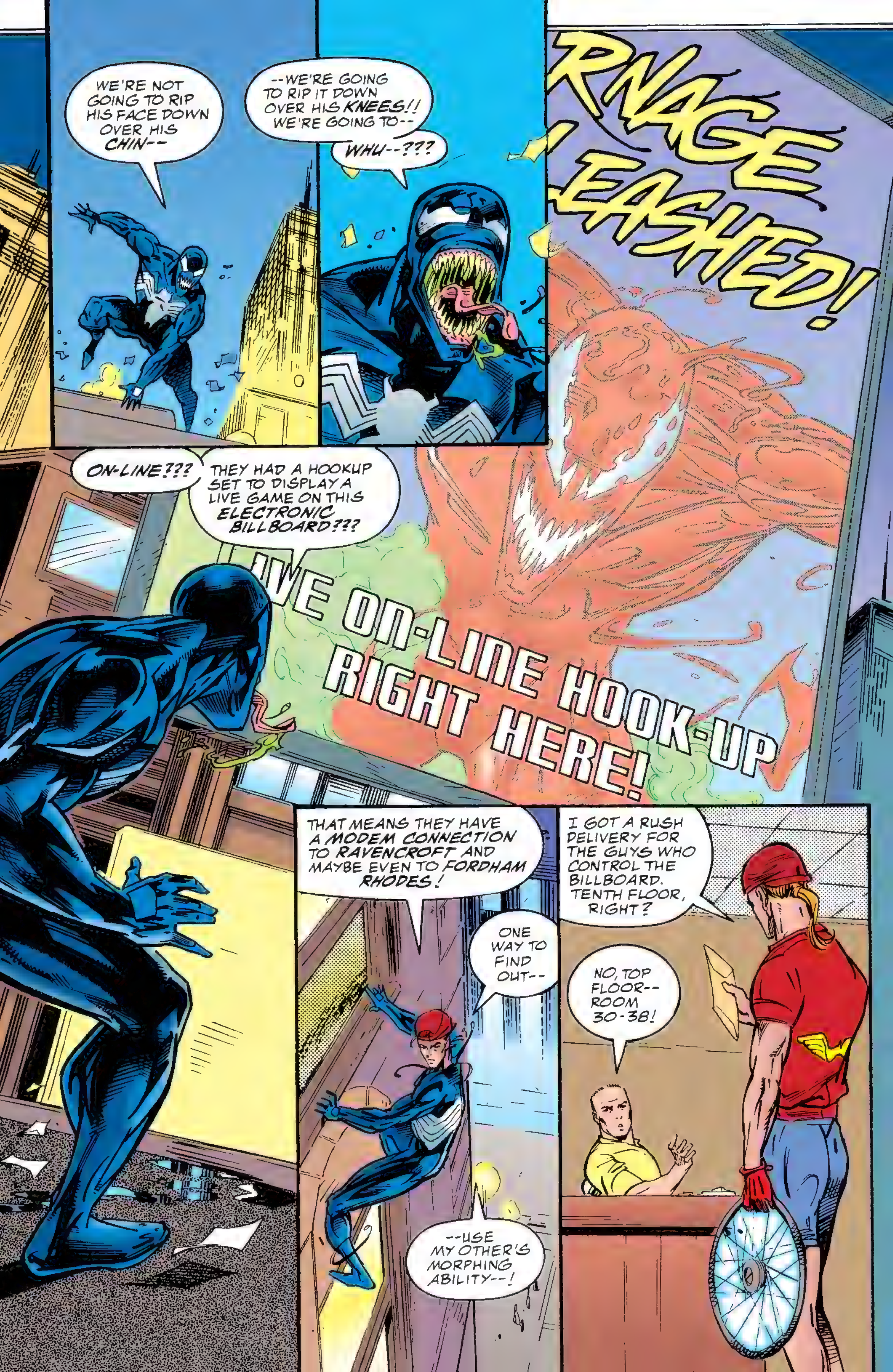
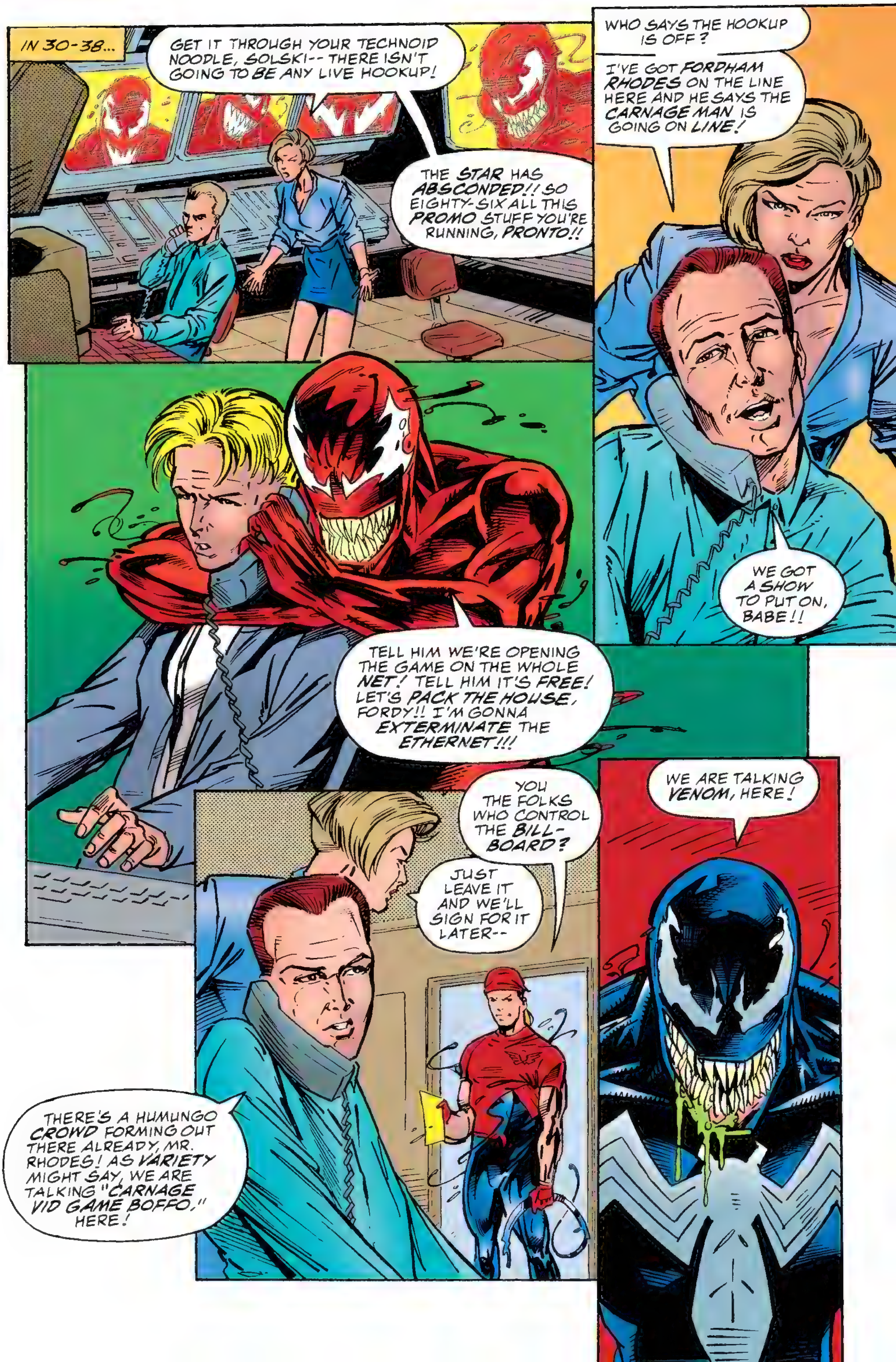
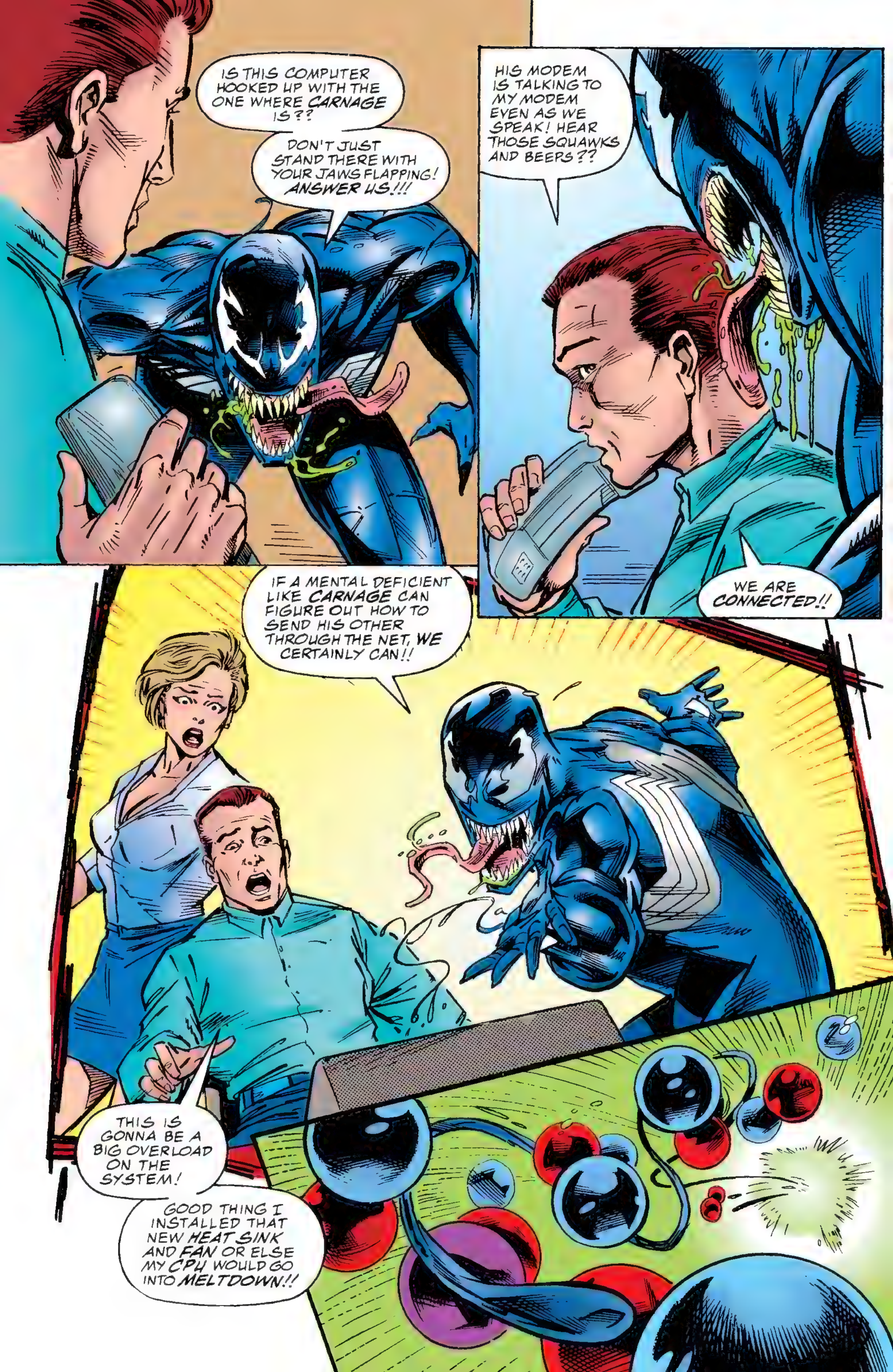

THEY THREW A SOLID RING OF BLUE AROUND THE PARVENU TOWERS!
NO WAY TO GET THROUGH THAT WITHOUT A TANK!
RATATATATAT
NAIL HIM IN A CROSS-FIRE!
BUT WE INTEND TO GET THROUGH THEM SOMEHOW. AND WHEN WE DO...
...WE'RE GOING TO SKEWER CARNAGE ON A SPIT AND CHAR-BROIL HIM UNTIL HE'S WELL DONE!
THAT SHOULD PUSH HIS HEAT-WEAKNESSES INTO OVERDRIVE!
WE'VE DRIVEN VENOM OFF AND HE SEEMS TO BE HEADING IN THE DIRECTION OF TIMES SQUARE!
NOW, IF WE CAN ONLY WINKLE CARNAGE OUT OF FORDHAM RHODES' PENTHOUSE...
MAKE WAY, CHUMPS!

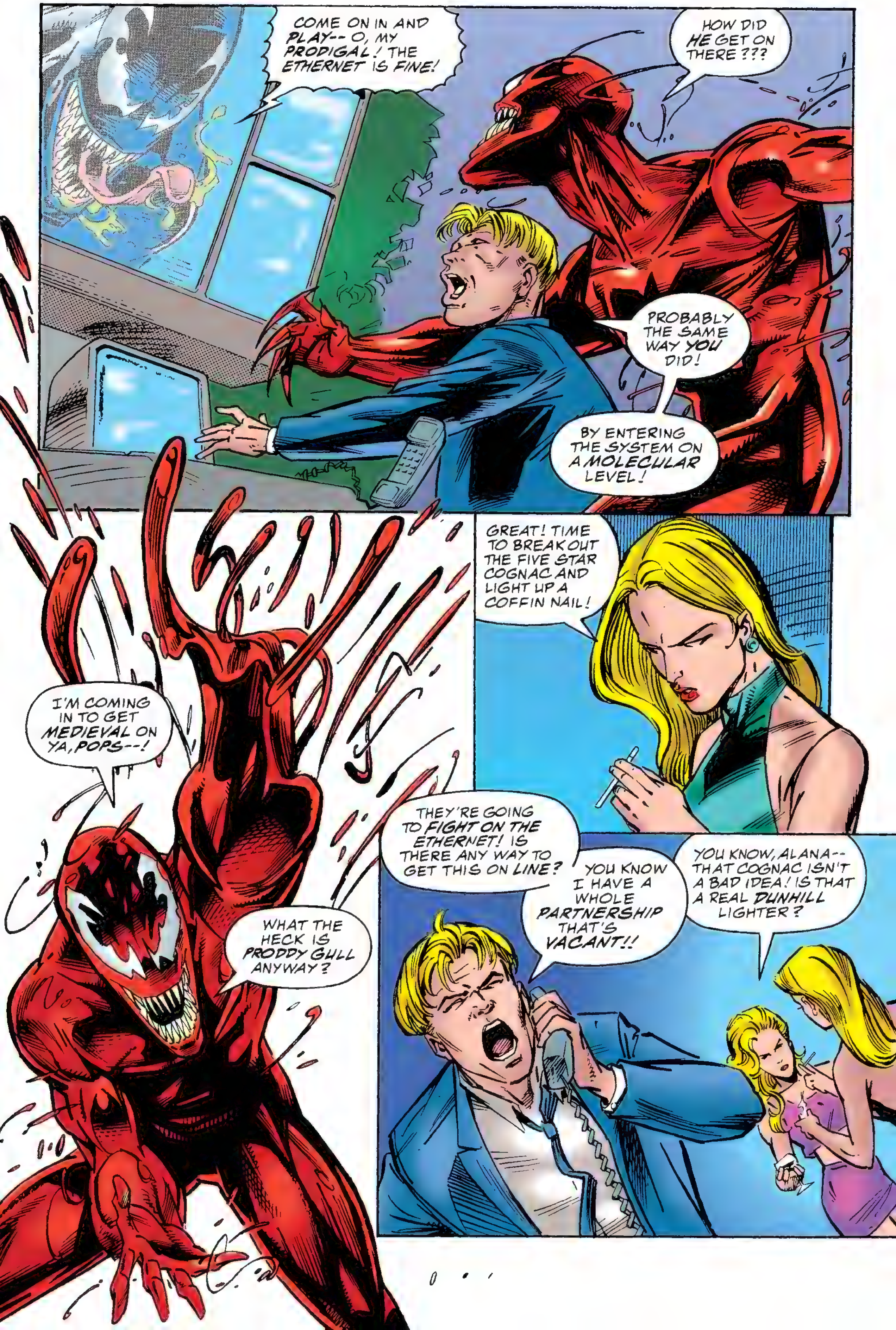

IN THAT VERY PENTHOUSE...
HOO HA!
I GUESS THE GRAND CENTRAL EXPRESS DIDN'T QUITE SEND DADDY-DEAREST VENOM TO DEADVILLE!
COME ON UP AND GET ME YA DIRTY COPPERS!
IT'S GONNA BE CURTAINS FER THE HOSTAGES! NYA!! NYA!!
I JUST LOVE THEM OLD EDWARD G. ROBINSON MOVIES!
LOOK HERE, CARNY-- WE CAN STILL TURN THIS ALL AROUND AND COME OUT SMELLING LIKE ROSES!
THIS IS KILLER PUBLICITY!! WE ARE FRONT PAGE! YOU KNOW HOW MANY MILLIONS OF UNITS WE ARE GOING TO MOVE OF THIS VIDEO GAME??
DON'T PUSH HIM, MR. RHODES--
CLAM UP, PAZZO-- YOU HAD YOUR SHOT AT HIM!

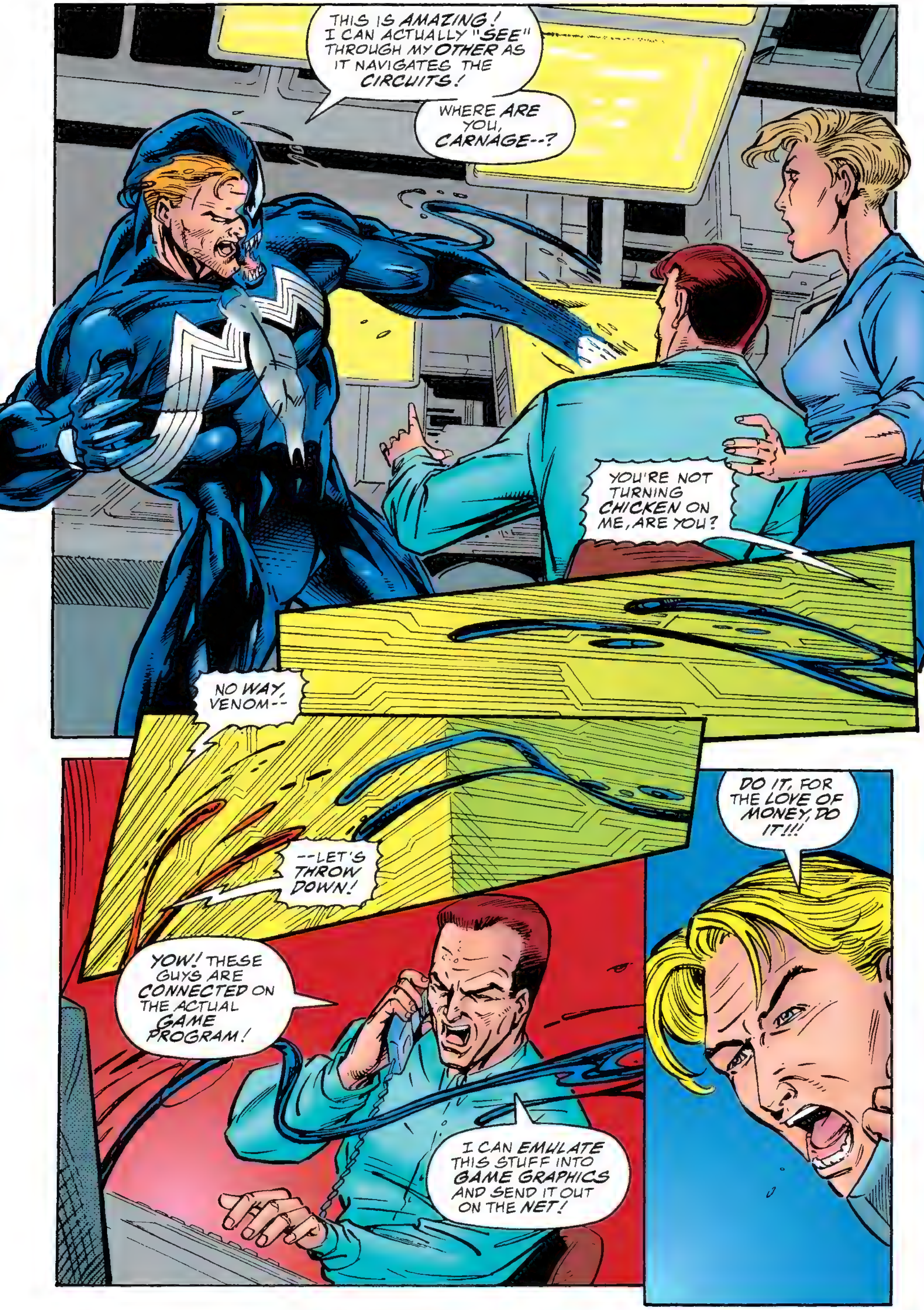

CARNAGE UNLEASHED!
NET CONNECTION ON TIMES SQUARE SCREEN
MILLIONS, HUH?
AND WHAT WAS MY CUT GONNA BE??
I'LL TELL YA--
--EL ZIPPO NADA!!!
RAVENCROFT WAS GONNA GET A FEW NEW PARCHEESI BOARDS AND MAYBE A POTHOLDER LOOM OR TWO, BUT CLETUS? CLETUS COMES UP GOOSE EGGS!!!
NOT IF WE REALLY PLAY IT SMART! WE COULD SET UP AN ACCOUNT FOR YOU IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS, WE COULD--
LIVE NE ON TIMES SQUARE SCREEN
YOU SAID MILLIONS?
HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE CONNECTED TO THE NET?
CAN I ACCESS THEM ALL THROUGH YOUR RIG?? HAH???
NO! YOU CAN'T BE THINKING--
HEY--NO SUCH THING AS BAD PUBLICITY!

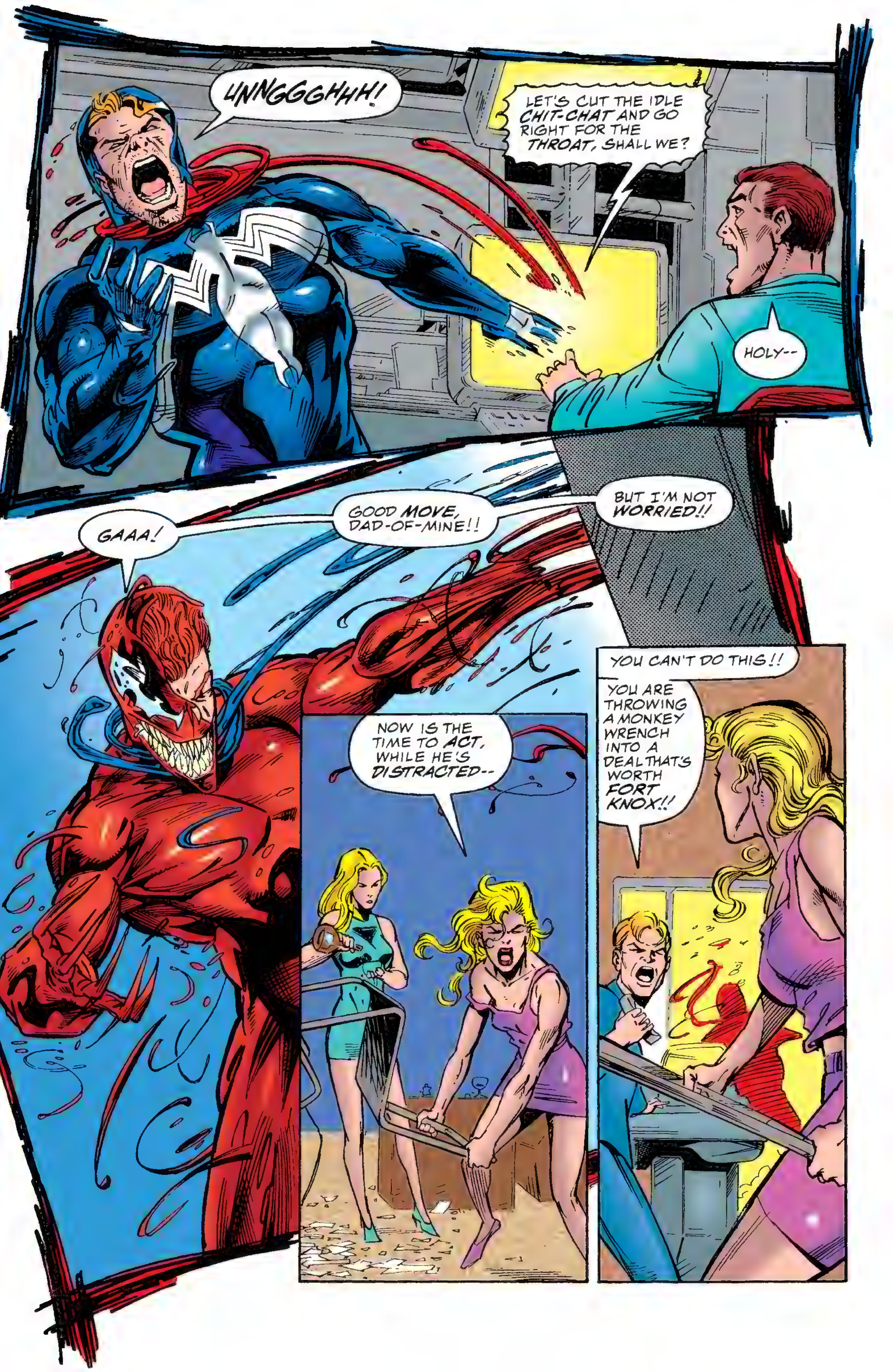

WE'RE NOT GOING TO RIP HIS FACE DOWN OVER HIS CHIN--
--WE'RE GOING TO RIP IT DOWN OVER HIS KNEES!! WE'RE GOING TO--
WHU--???
RNAGE
LEASHED!
ON-LINE???
THEY HAD A HOOKUP SET TO DISPLAY A LIVE GAME ON THIS ELECTRONIC BILLBOARD???
IVE ON-LINE HOOK-UP RIGHT HERE!
THAT MEANS THEY HAVE A MODEM CONNECTION TO RAVENCROFT AND MAYBE EVEN TO FORDHAM RHODES!
ONE WAY TO FIND OUT--
--USE MY OTHER'S MORPHING ABILITY--!
I GOT A RUSH DELIVERY FOR THE GUYS WHO CONTROL THE BILLBOARD. TENTH FLOOR, RIGHT?
NO, TOP FLOOR-- ROOM 30-38!

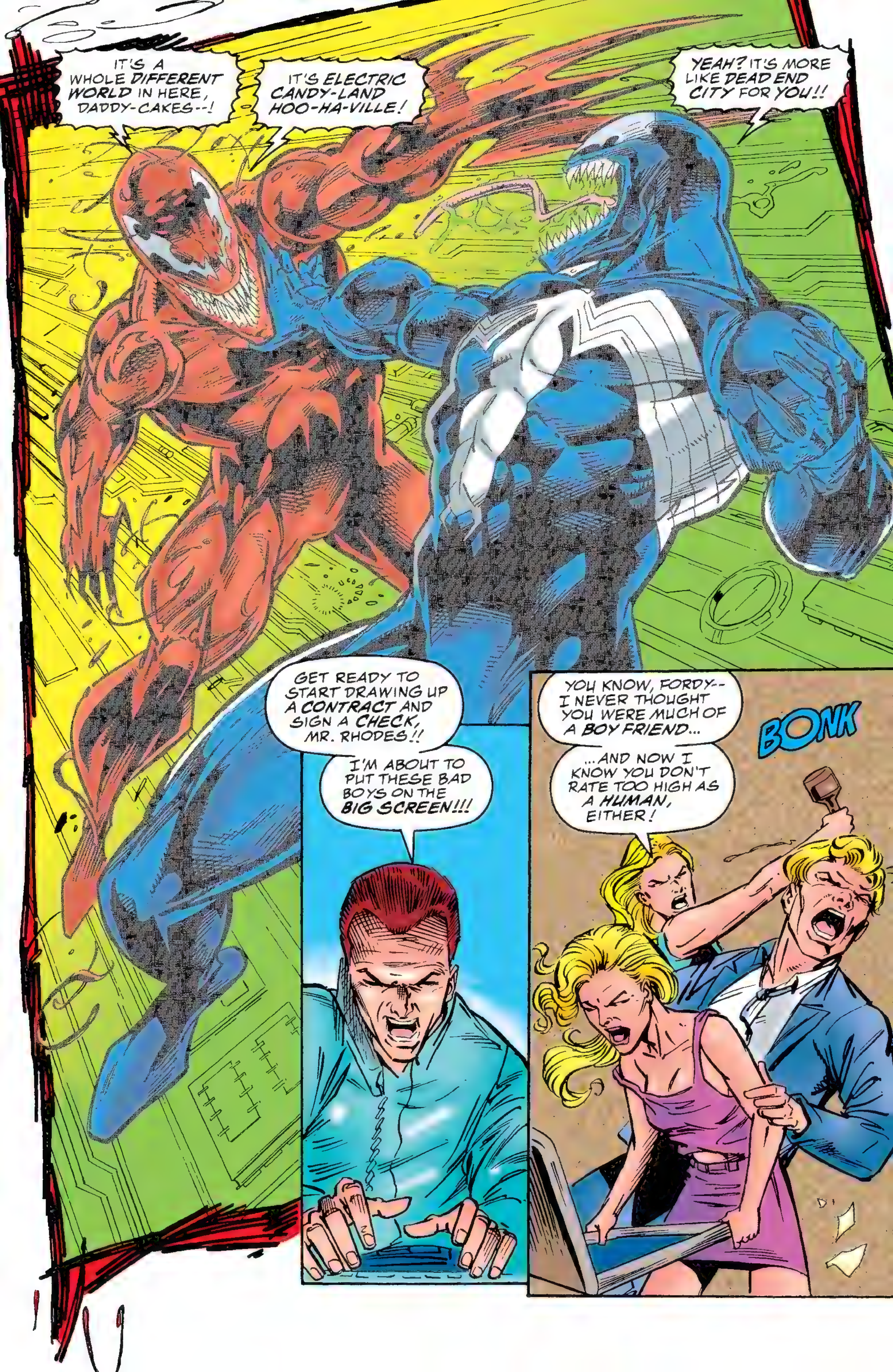

IN 30-38...
GET IT THROUGH YOUR TECHNOID NOODLE, SOLSKI-- THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE ANY LIVE HOOKUP!
THE STAR HAS ABSCONDED!! SO EIGHTY-SIX ALL THIS PROMO STUFF YOU'RE RUNNING, PRONTO!!
WHO SAYS THE HOOKUP IS OFF?
I'VE GOT FORDHAM RHODES ON THE LINE HERE AND HE SAYS THE CARNAGE MAN IS GOING ON LINE!
WE GOT A SHOW TO PUT ON, BABE!!
TELL HIM WE'RE OPENING THE GAME ON THE WHOLE NET! TELL HIM IT'S FREE! LET'S PACK THE HOUSE, FORDY!! I'M GONNA EXTERMINATE THE ETHERNET!!!
YOU THE FOLKS WHO CONTROL THE BILL-BOARD?
JUST LEAVE IT AND WE'LL SIGN FOR IT LATER--
THERE'S A HUMUNGO CROWD FORMING OUT THERE ALREADY, MR. RHODES! AS VARIETY MIGHT SAY, WE ARE TALKING "CARNAGE VID GAME BOFFO," HERE!
WE ARE TALKING VENOM, HERE!

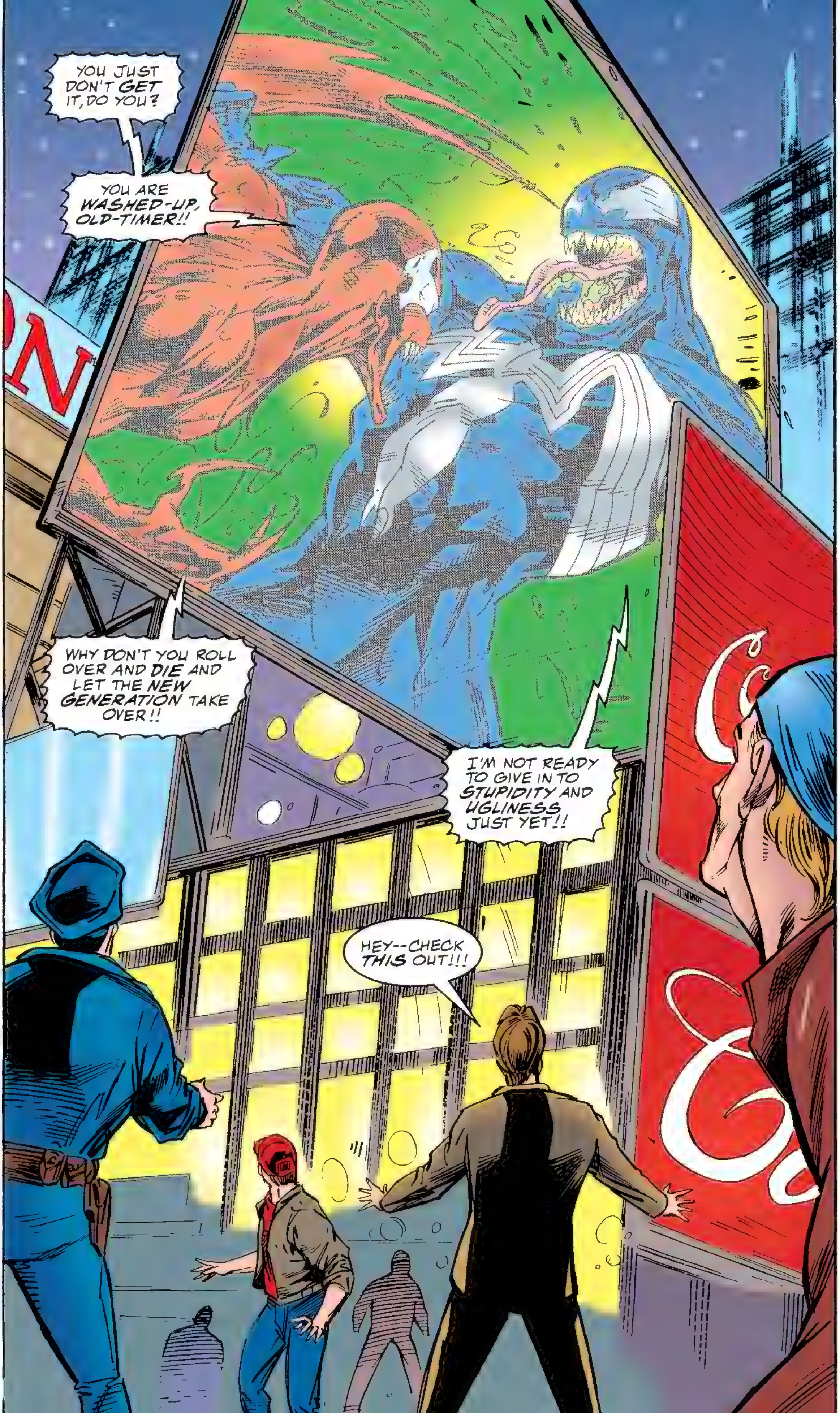

IS THIS COMPUTER HOOKED UP WITH THE ONE WHERE *CARNAGE* IS??
DON'T JUST STAND THERE WITH YOUR JAWS FLAPPING! ***ANSWER US!!!***
HIS MODEM IS TALKING TO MY MODEM EVEN AS WE SPEAK! HEAR THOSE SQUAWKS AND BEEPS??
WE ARE *CONNECTED!!*
IF A MENTAL DEFICIENT LIKE *CARNAGE* CAN FIGURE OUT HOW TO SEND HIS OTHER THROUGH THE NET, *WE* CERTAINLY CAN!!
THIS IS GONNA BE A BIG OVERLOAD ON THE SYSTEM!
GOOD THING I INSTALLED THAT NEW *HEAT SINK* AND *FAN* OR ELSE MY *CPU* WOULD GO INTO *MELTDOWN!!*

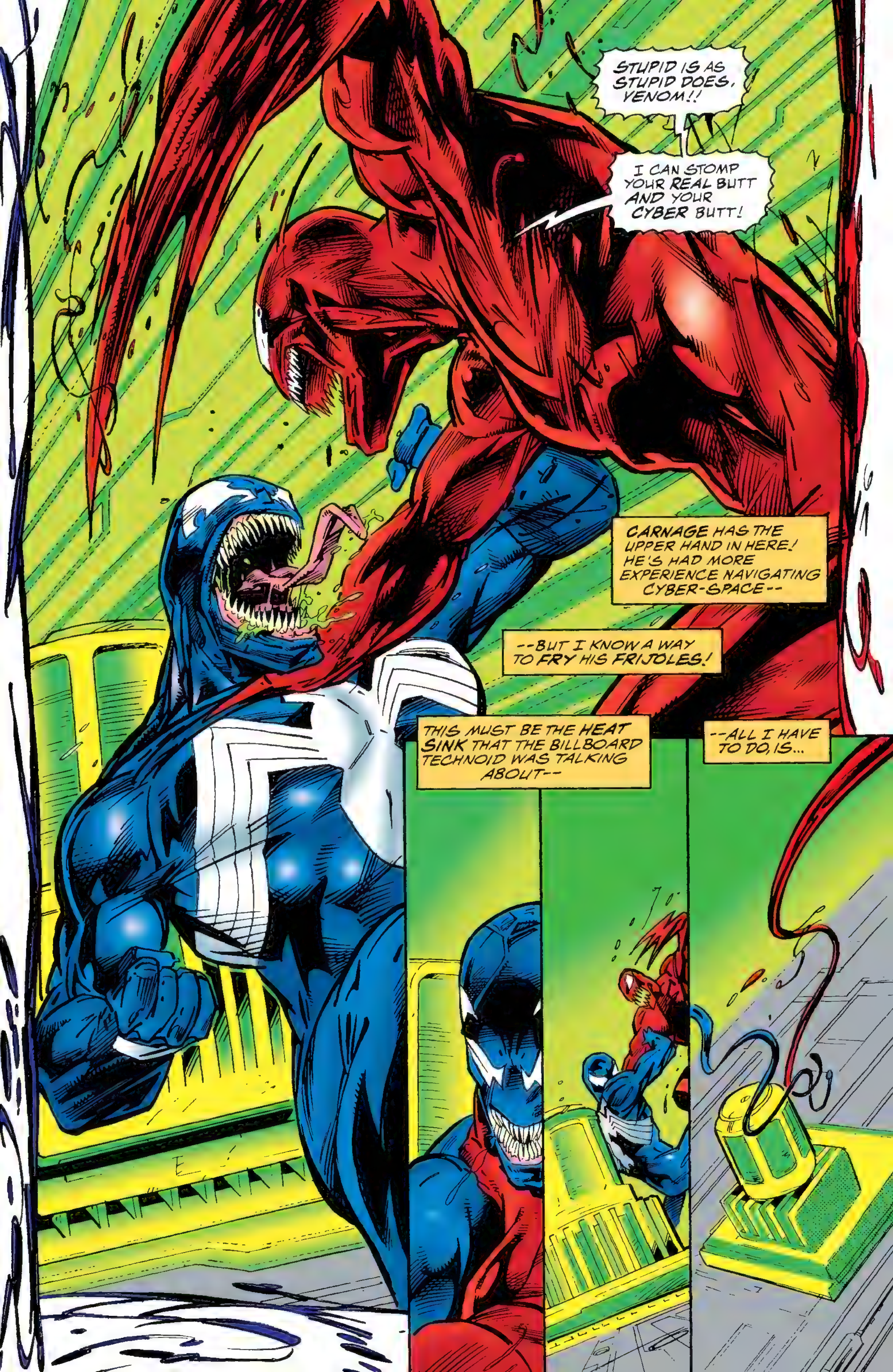

COME ON IN AND PLAY-- O, MY PRODIGAL! THE ETHERNET IS FINE!
HOW DID HE GET ON THERE???
PROBABLY THE SAME WAY YOU DID!
BY ENTERING THE SYSTEM ON A MOLECULAR LEVEL!
I'M COMING IN TO GET MEDIEVAL ON YA, POPS--!
WHAT THE HECK IS PRODDY GULL ANYWAY?
GREAT! TIME TO BREAK OUT THE FIVE STAR COGNAC AND LIGHT UP A COFFIN NAIL!
THEY'RE GOING TO FIGHT ON THE ETHERNET! IS THERE ANY WAY TO GET THIS ON LINE?
YOU KNOW I HAVE A WHOLE PARTNERSHIP THAT'S VACANT!!
YOU KNOW, ALANA-- THAT COGNAC ISN'T A BAD IDEA! IS THAT A REAL DUNHILL LIGHTER?

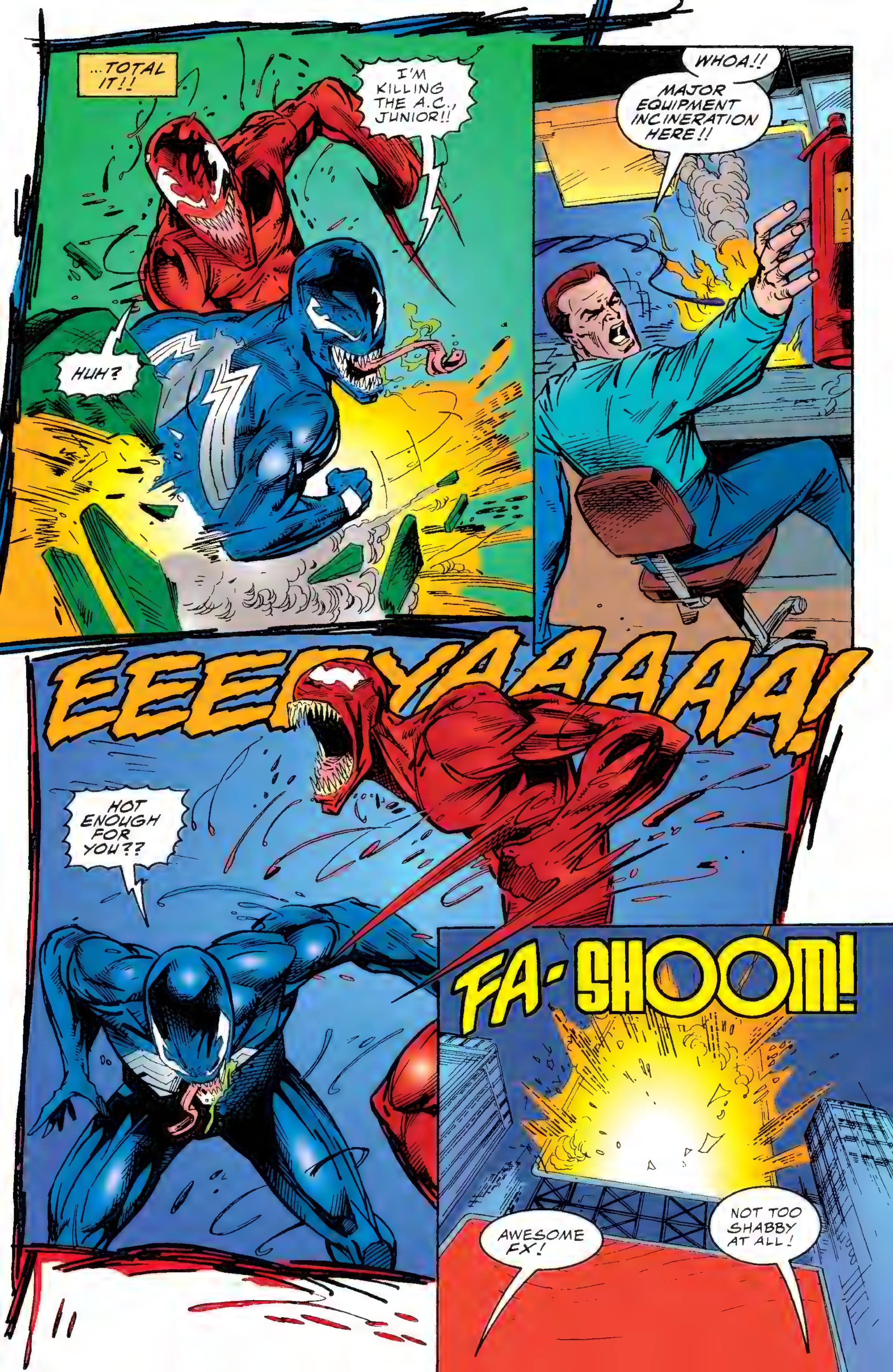

THIS IS AMAZING! I CAN ACTUALLY "SEE" THROUGH MY OTHER AS IT NAVIGATES THE CIRCUITS!
WHERE ARE YOU, CARNAGE--?
YOU'RE NOT TURNING CHICKEN ON ME, ARE YOU?
NO WAY, VENOM--
--LET'S THROW DOWN!
YOW! THESE GUYS ARE CONNECTED ON THE ACTUAL GAME PROGRAM!
I CAN EMULATE THIS STUFF INTO GAME GRAPHICS AND SEND IT OUT ON THE NET!
DO IT, FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY, DO IT!!!

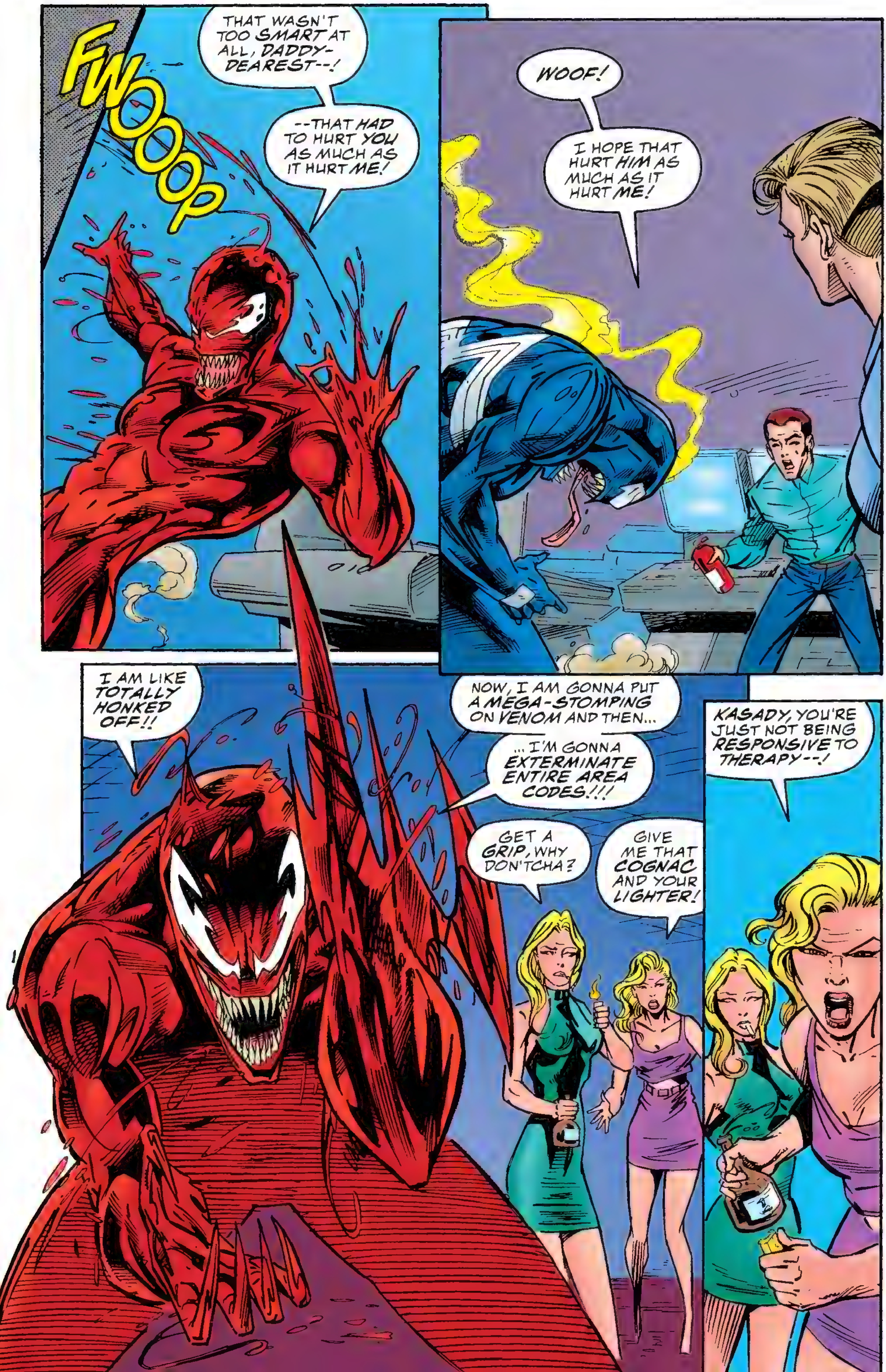

UNNGGGHHH!
LET'S CUT THE IDLE CHIT-CHAT AND GO RIGHT FOR THE THROAT, SHALL WE?
HOLY--
GAAA!
GOOD MOVE, DAD-OF-MINE!!
BUT I'M NOT WORRIED!!
NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT, WHILE HE'S DISTRACTED--
YOU CAN'T DO THIS!!
YOU ARE THROWING A MONKEY WRENCH INTO A DEAL THAT'S WORTH FORT KNOX!!

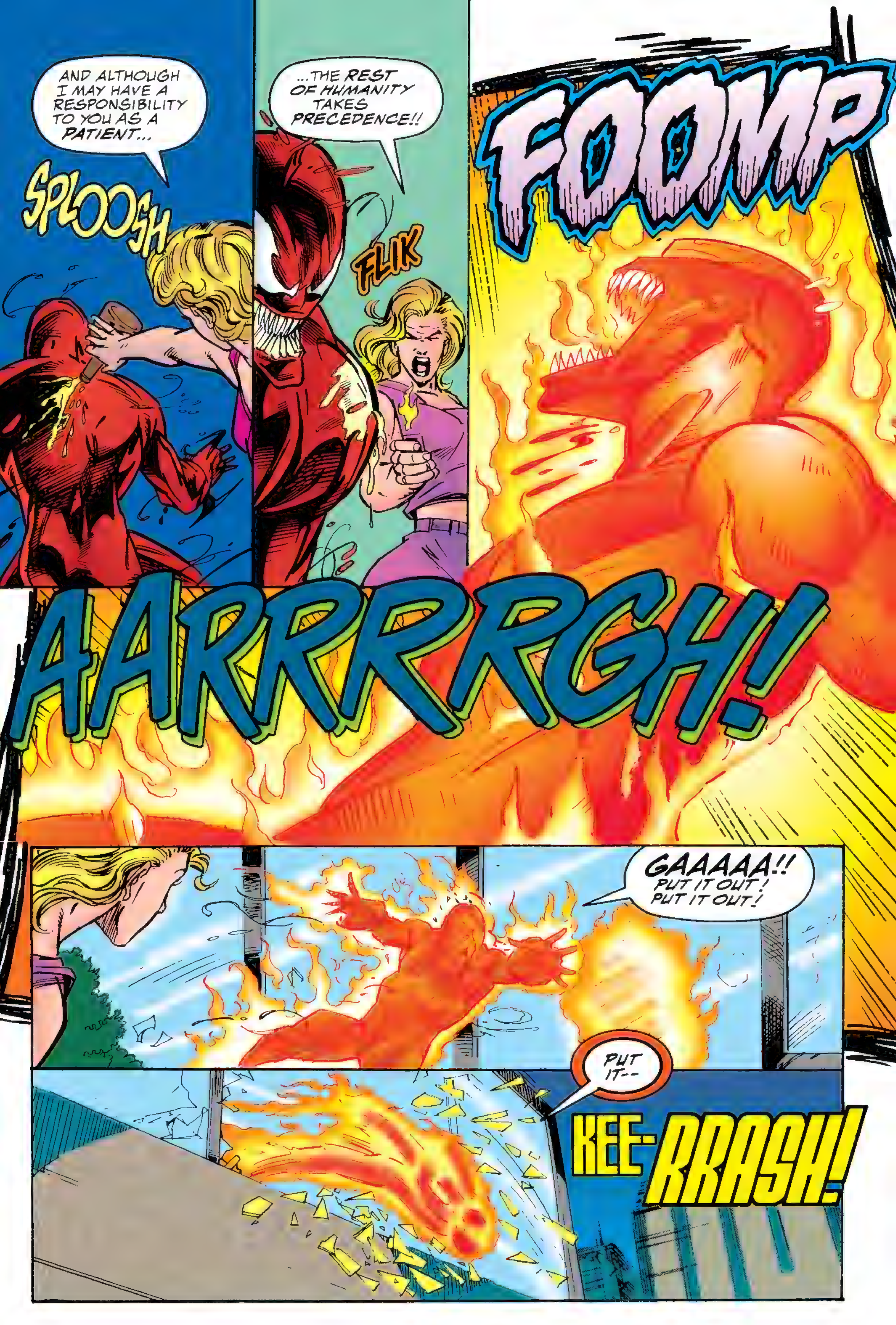

IT'S A WHOLE *DIFFERENT WORLD* IN HERE, DADDY-CAKES--!
IT'S *ELECTRIC CANDY-LAND HOO-HA-VILLE!*
YEAH? IT'S MORE LIKE *DEAD END CITY* FOR *YOU!!*
GET READY TO START DRAWING UP A *CONTRACT* AND SIGN A *CHECK*, MR. RHODES!!
I'M ABOUT TO PUT THESE BAD BOYS ON THE *BIG SCREEN!!!*
YOU KNOW, FORDY-- I NEVER THOUGHT YOU WERE MUCH OF A *BOY FRIEND...*
...AND NOW I KNOW YOU DON'T RATE TOO HIGH AS A *HUMAN*, EITHER!
BONK

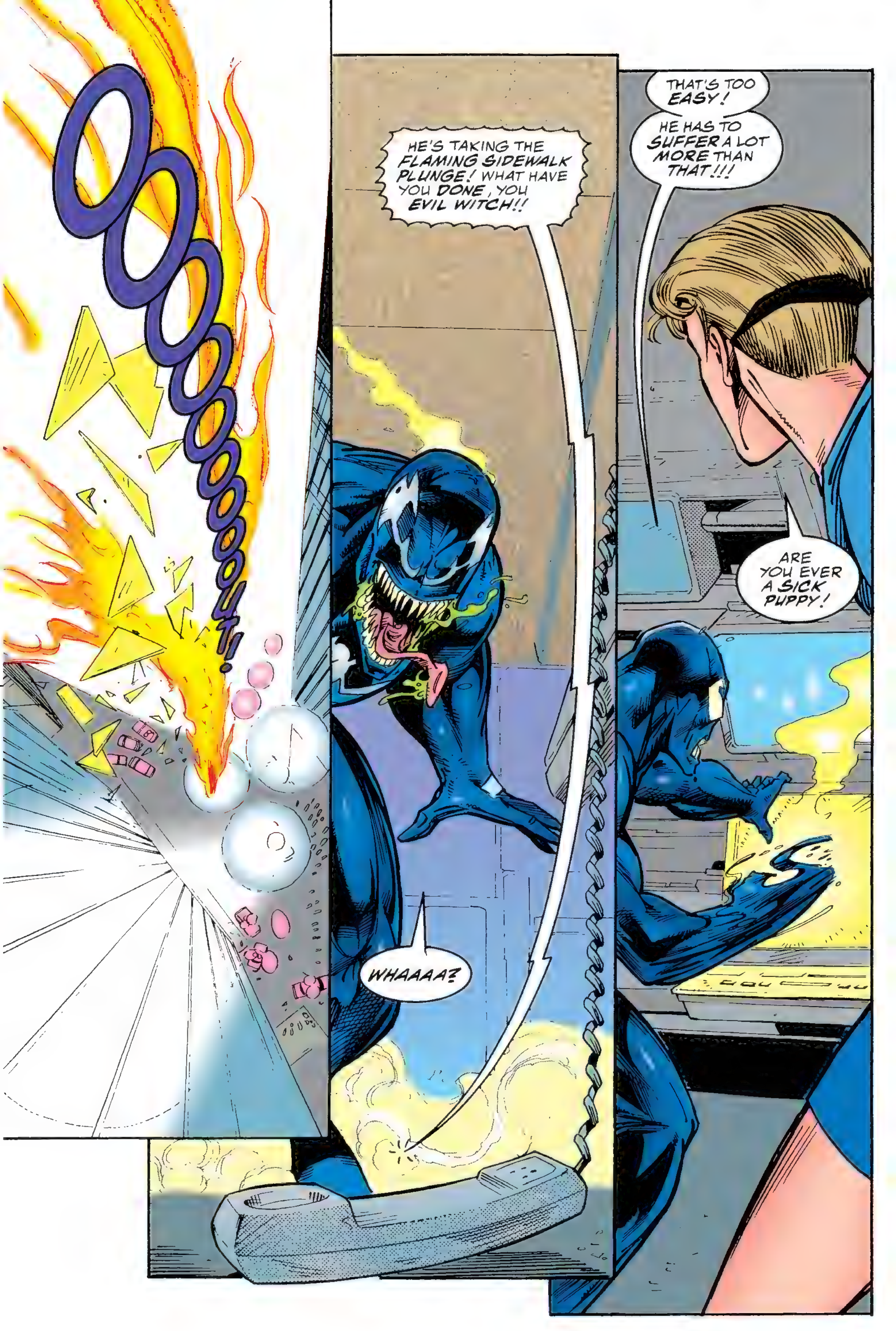

YOU JUST DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
YOU ARE WASHED-UP, OLD-TIMER!!
WHY DON'T YOU ROLL OVER AND DIE AND LET THE NEW GENERATION TAKE OVER!!
I'M NOT READY TO GIVE IN TO STUPIDITY AND UGLINESS JUST YET!!
HEY--CHECK THIS OUT!!!

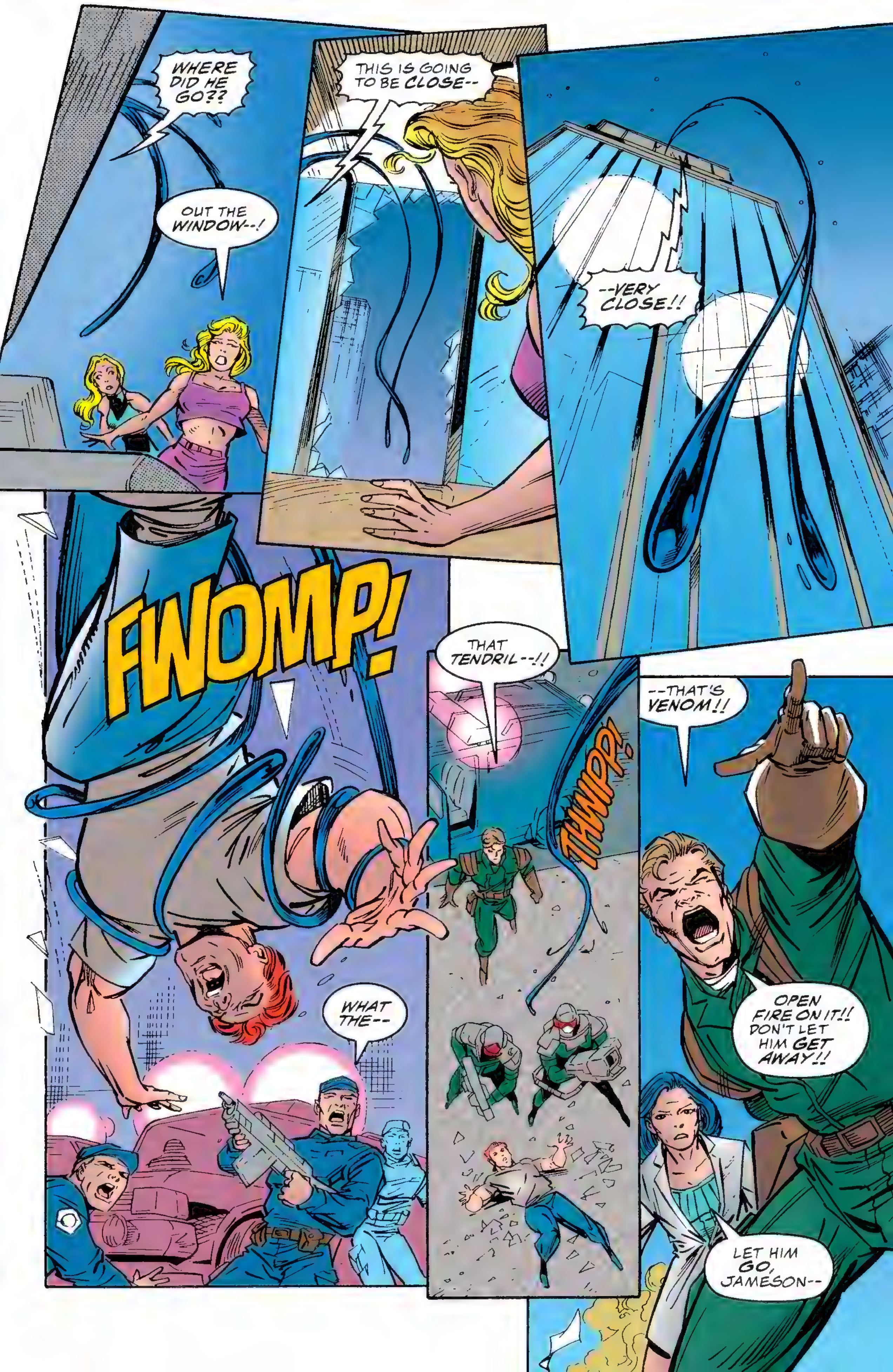

STUPID IS AS STUPID DOES, VENOM!!
I CAN STOMP YOUR REAL BUTT AND YOUR CYBER BUTT!
CARNAGE HAS THE UPPER HAND IN HERE! HE'S HAD MORE EXPERIENCE NAVIGATING CYBER-SPACE--
--BUT I KNOW A WAY TO FRY HIS FRIJOLES!
THIS MUST BE THE HEAT SINK THAT THE BILLBOARD TECHNOID WAS TALKING ABOUT--
--ALL I HAVE TO DO, IS...

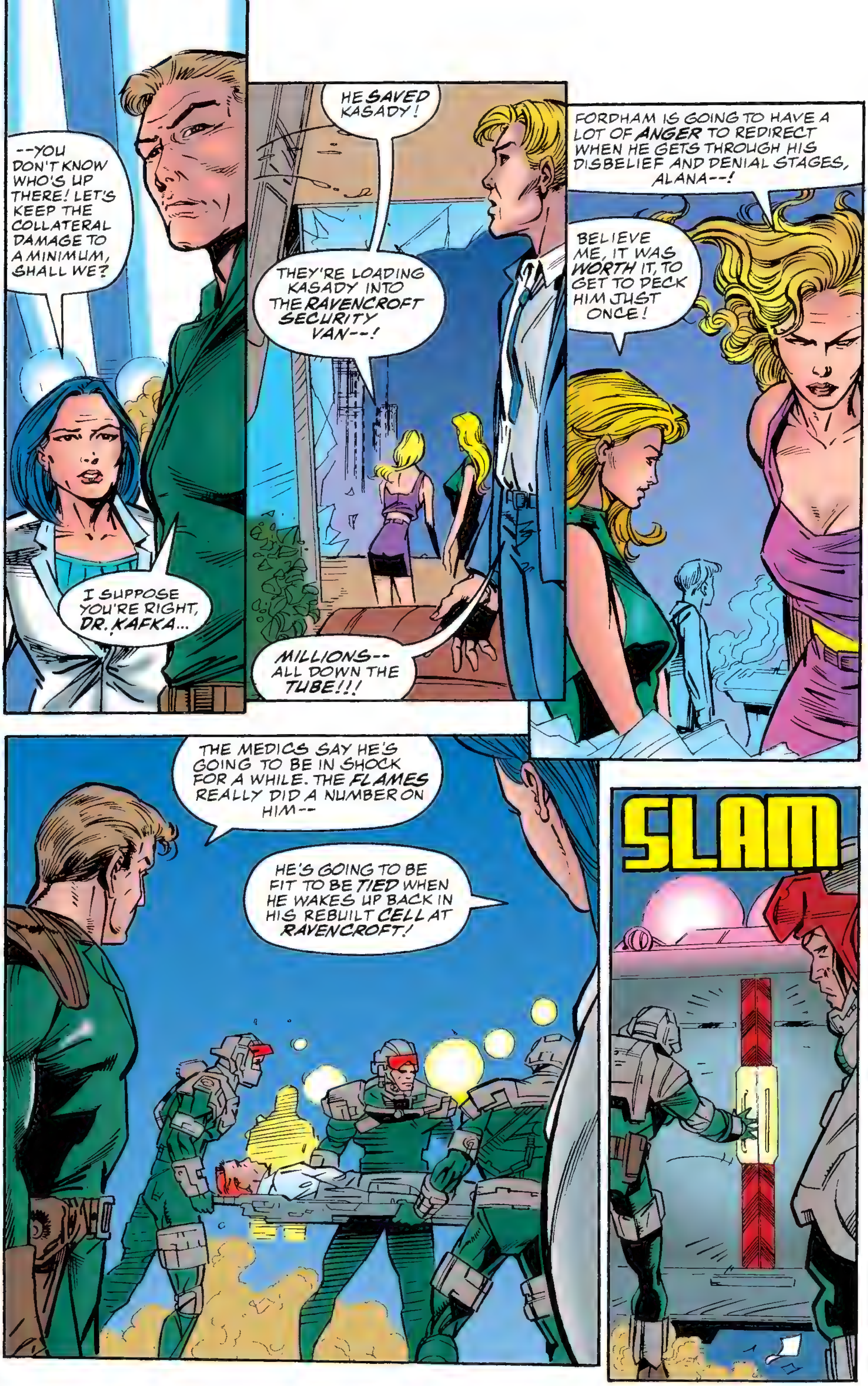

...TOTAL IT!!
I'M KILLING THE A.C., JUNIOR!!
HUH?
WHOA!!
MAJOR EQUIPMENT INCINERATION HERE!!
EEEEYAAAAAA!
HOT ENOUGH FOR YOU??
FA-SHOOM!
AWESOME FX!
NOT TOO SHABBY AT ALL!

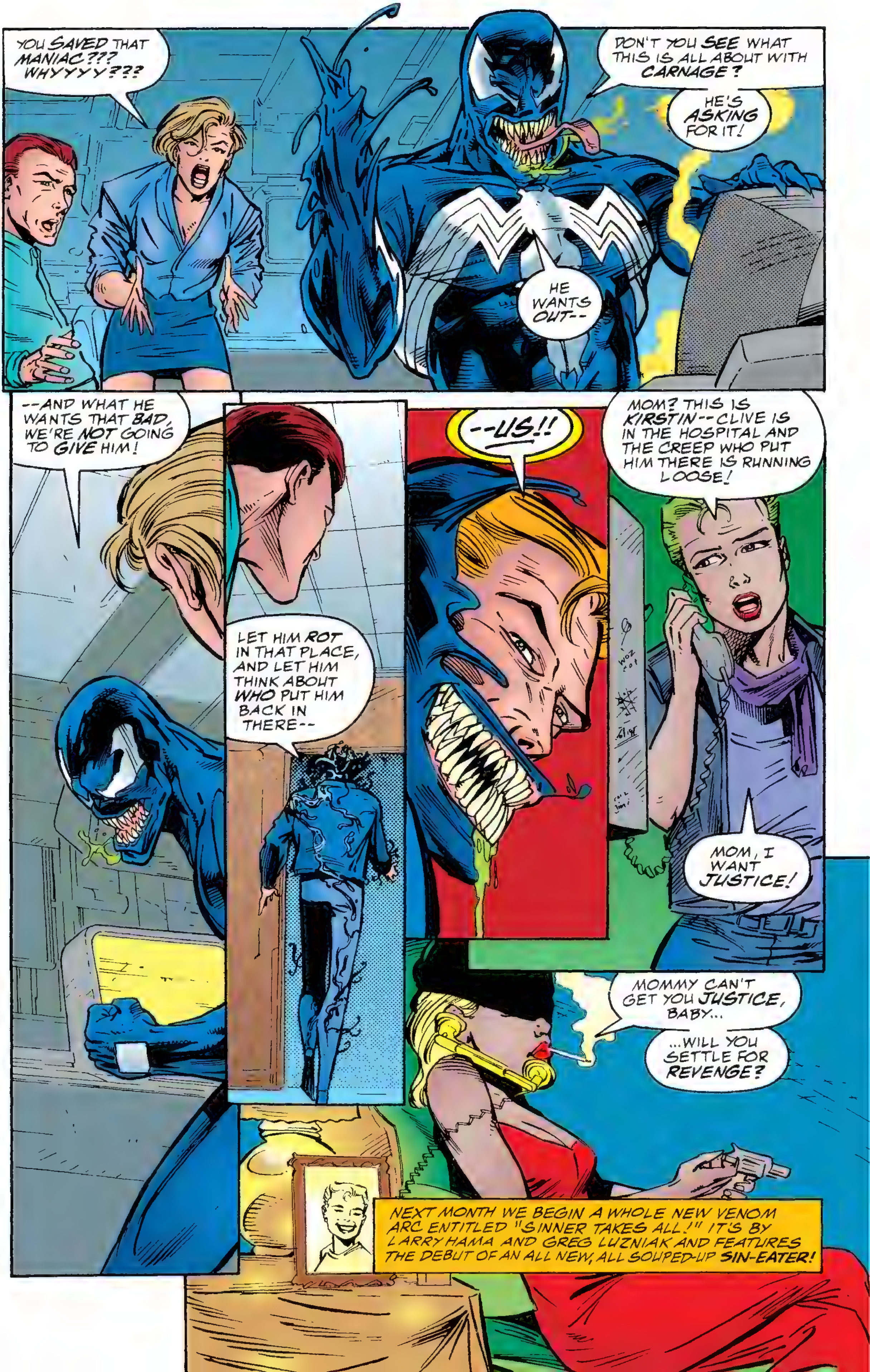

FWOOOP
THAT WASN'T TOO SMART AT ALL, DADDY-DEAREST--!
--THAT HAD TO HURT YOU AS MUCH AS IT HURT ME!
WOOF!
I HOPE THAT HURT HIM AS MUCH AS IT HURT ME!
I AM LIKE TOTALLY HONKED OFF!!
NOW, I AM GONNA PUT A MEGA-STOMPING ON VENOM AND THEN...
... I'M GONNA EXTERMINATE ENTIRE AREA CODES!!!
GET A GRIP, WHY DON'TCHA?
GIVE ME THAT COGNAC AND YOUR LIGHTER!
KASADY, YOU'RE JUST NOT BEING RESPONSIVE TO THERAPY--!

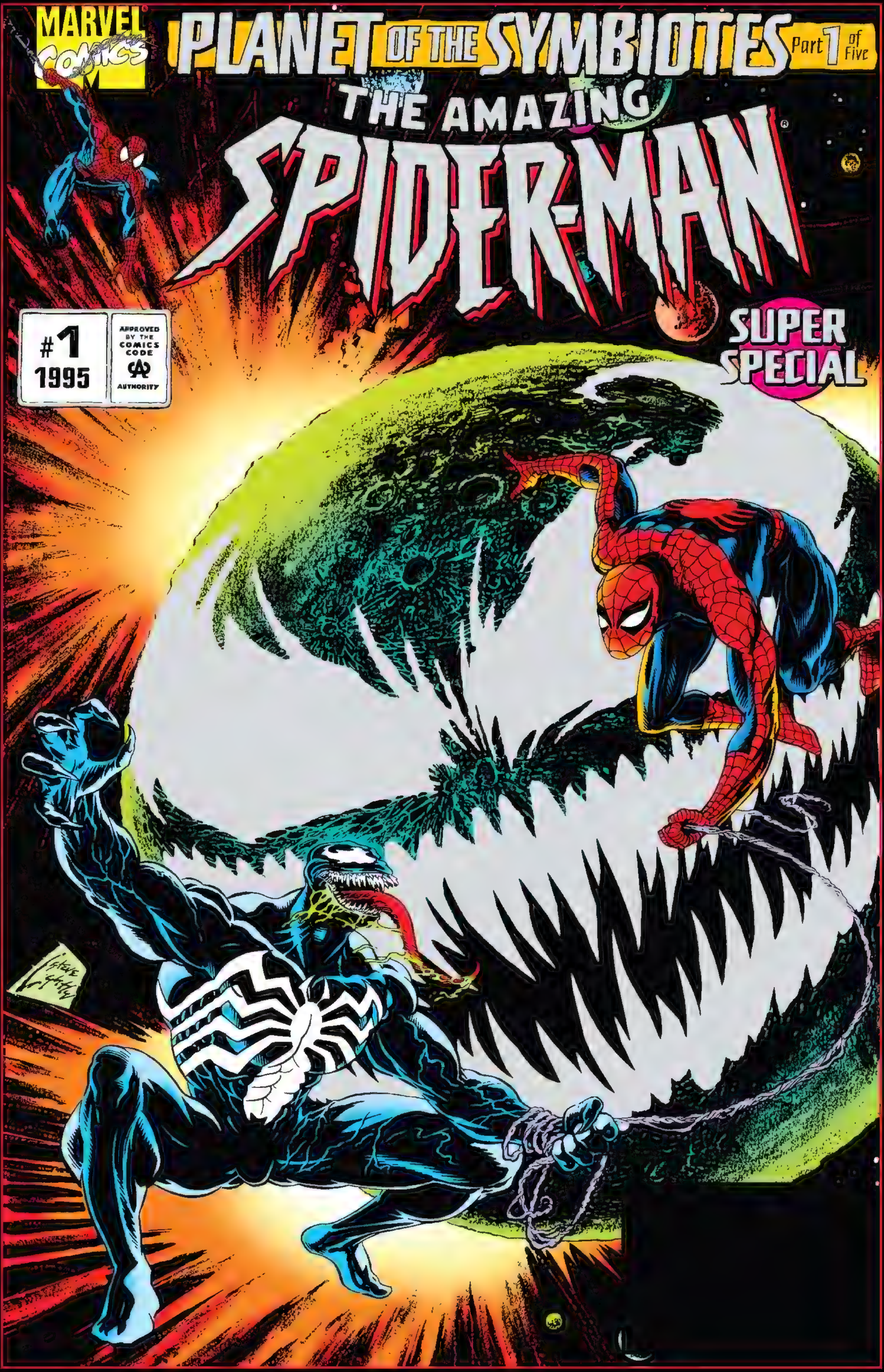

AND ALTHOUGH I MAY HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO YOU AS A *PATIENT*...
SPLOOSH
...THE *REST* OF HUMANITY TAKES PRECEDENCE!!
FLIK
FOOMP
AARRRRGH!
GAAAAA!! PUT IT OUT! PUT IT OUT!
PUT IT--
KEE-RRASH!

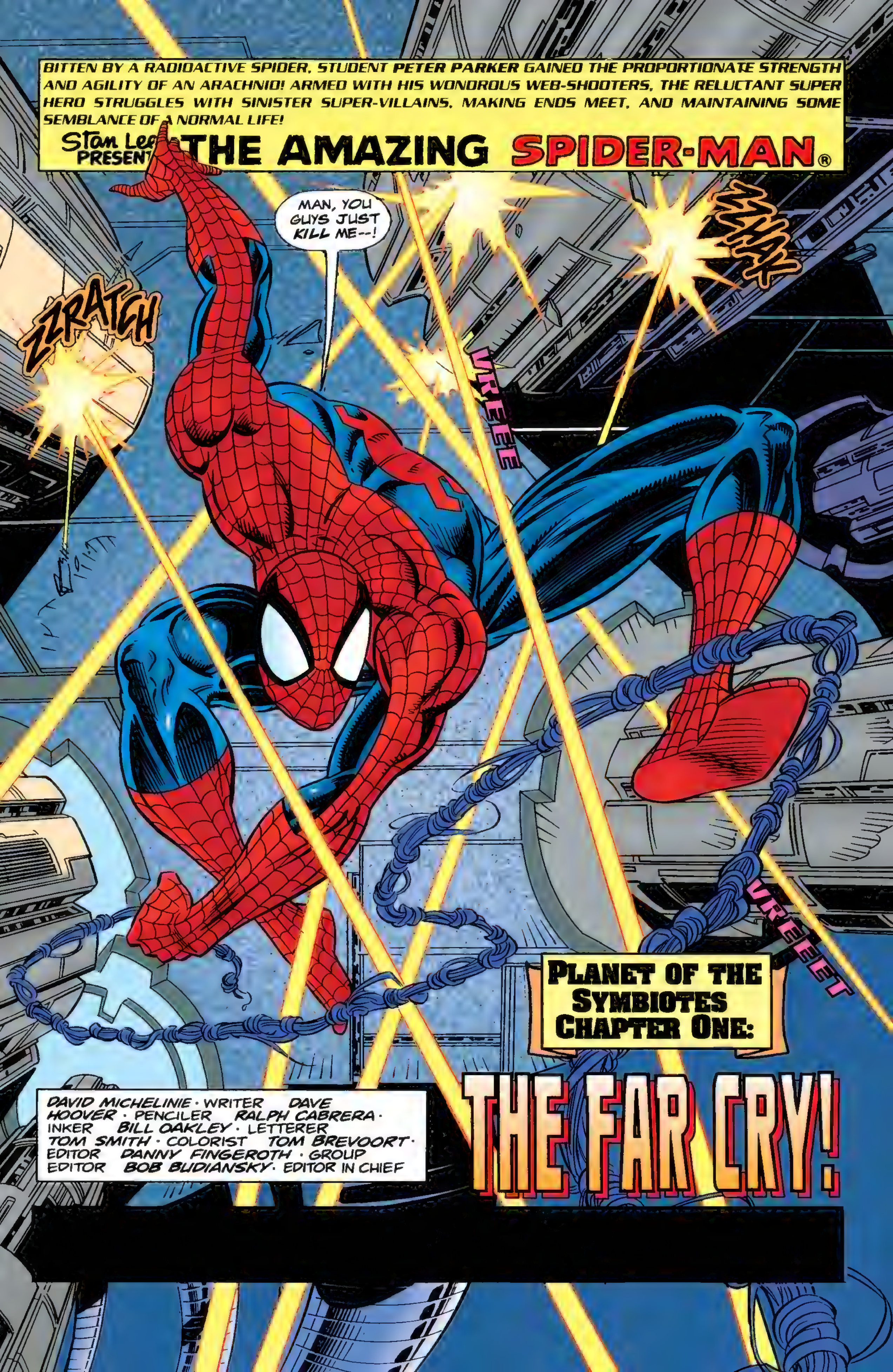

OOOOOOOOOOUT!!
HE'S TAKING THE FLAMING SIDEWALK PLUNGE! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE, YOU EVIL WITCH!!
WHAAAA?
THAT'S TOO EASY!
HE HAS TO SUFFER A LOT MORE THAN THAT!!!
ARE YOU EVER A SICK PUPPY!


WHERE DID HE GO??
OUT THE WINDOW--!
THIS IS GOING TO BE CLOSE--
--VERY CLOSE!!
FWOMP!
WHAT THE--
THAT TENDRIL--!!
THWIPP!
--THAT'S VENOM!!
OPEN FIRE ON IT!! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!!
LET HIM GO, JAMESON--


--YOU DON'T KNOW WHO'S UP THERE! LET'S KEEP THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE TO A MINIMUM, SHALL WE?
I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT, **DR. KAFKA**...
HE **SAVED** KASADY!
THEY'RE LOADING KASADY INTO THE **RAVENCROFT SECURITY** VAN--!
MILLIONS-- ALL DOWN THE **TUBE**!!!
FORDHAM IS GOING TO HAVE A LOT OF **ANGER** TO REDIRECT WHEN HE GETS THROUGH HIS DISBELIEF AND DENIAL STAGES, ALANA--!
BELIEVE ME, IT WAS **WORTH** IT, TO GET TO DECK HIM JUST ONCE!
THE MEDICS SAY HE'S GOING TO BE IN SHOCK FOR A WHILE. THE **FLAMES** REALLY DID A NUMBER ON HIM--
HE'S GOING TO BE FIT TO BE **TIED** WHEN HE WAKES UP BACK IN HIS REBUILT **CELL** AT **RAVENCROFT**!
SLAM


YOU SAVED THAT MANIAC??? WHYYYY???
DON'T YOU SEE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT WITH CARNAGE?
HE'S ASKING FOR IT!
HE WANTS OUT--
--AND WHAT HE WANTS THAT BAD, WE'RE NOT GOING TO GIVE HIM!
LET HIM ROT IN THAT PLACE, AND LET HIM THINK ABOUT WHO PUT HIM BACK IN THERE--
--US!!
MOM? THIS IS KIRSTIN--CLIVE IS IN THE HOSPITAL AND THE CREEP WHO PUT HIM THERE IS RUNNING LOOSE!
MOM, I WANT JUSTICE!
MOMMY CAN'T GET YOU JUSTICE, BABY...
...WILL YOU SETTLE FOR REVENGE?
NEXT MONTH WE BEGIN A WHOLE NEW VENOM ARC ENTITLED "SINNER TAKES ALL!" IT'S BY LARRY HAMA AND GREG LUZNIAK AND FEATURES THE DEBUT OF AN ALL NEW, ALL SOUPED-UP SIN-EATER!


MARVEL COMICS
PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES Part 1 of Five
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
#1 1995
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SUPER SPECIAL
Steve Lightle



BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT PETER PARKER GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®**

PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES CHAPTER ONE:

THE FAR CRY!

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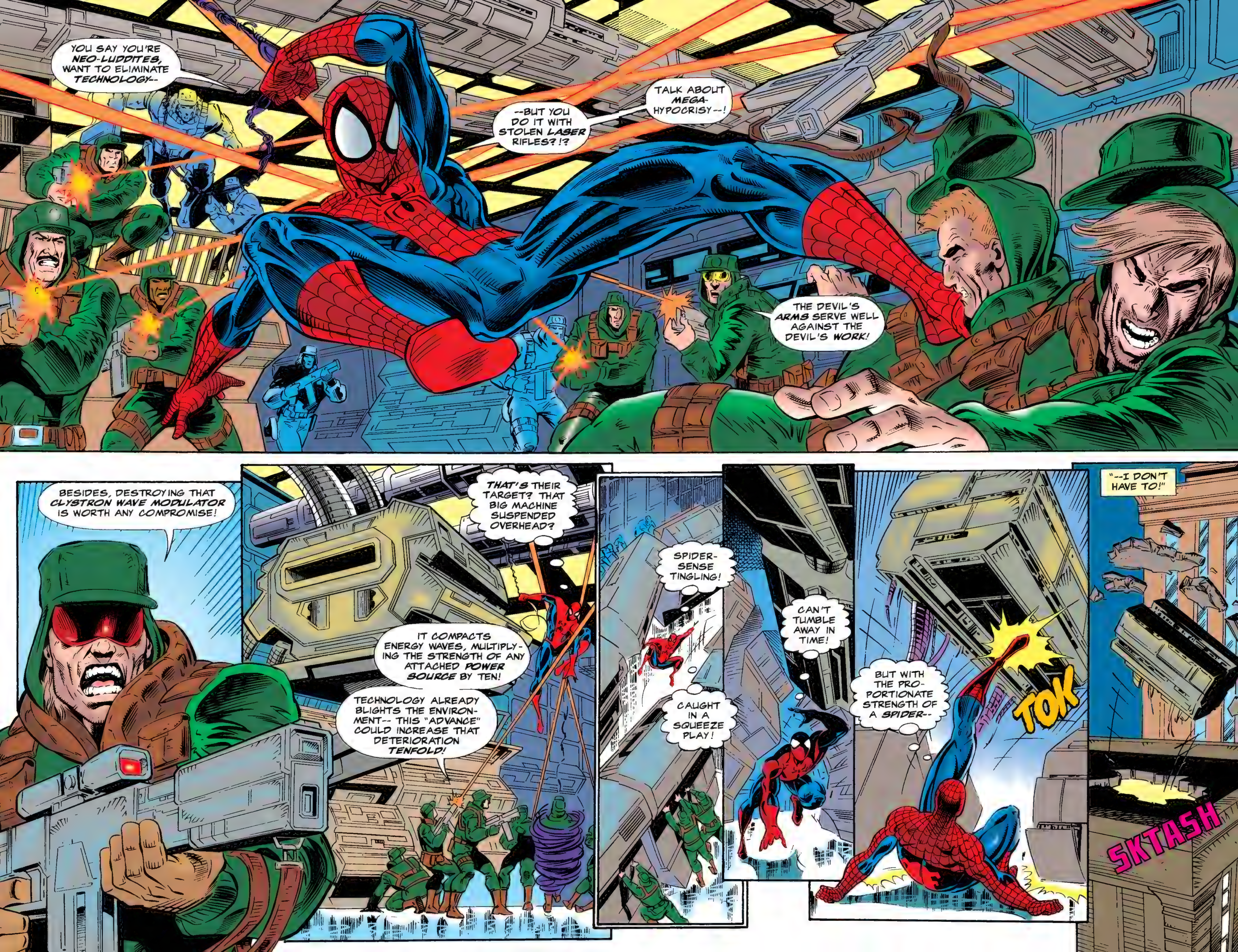
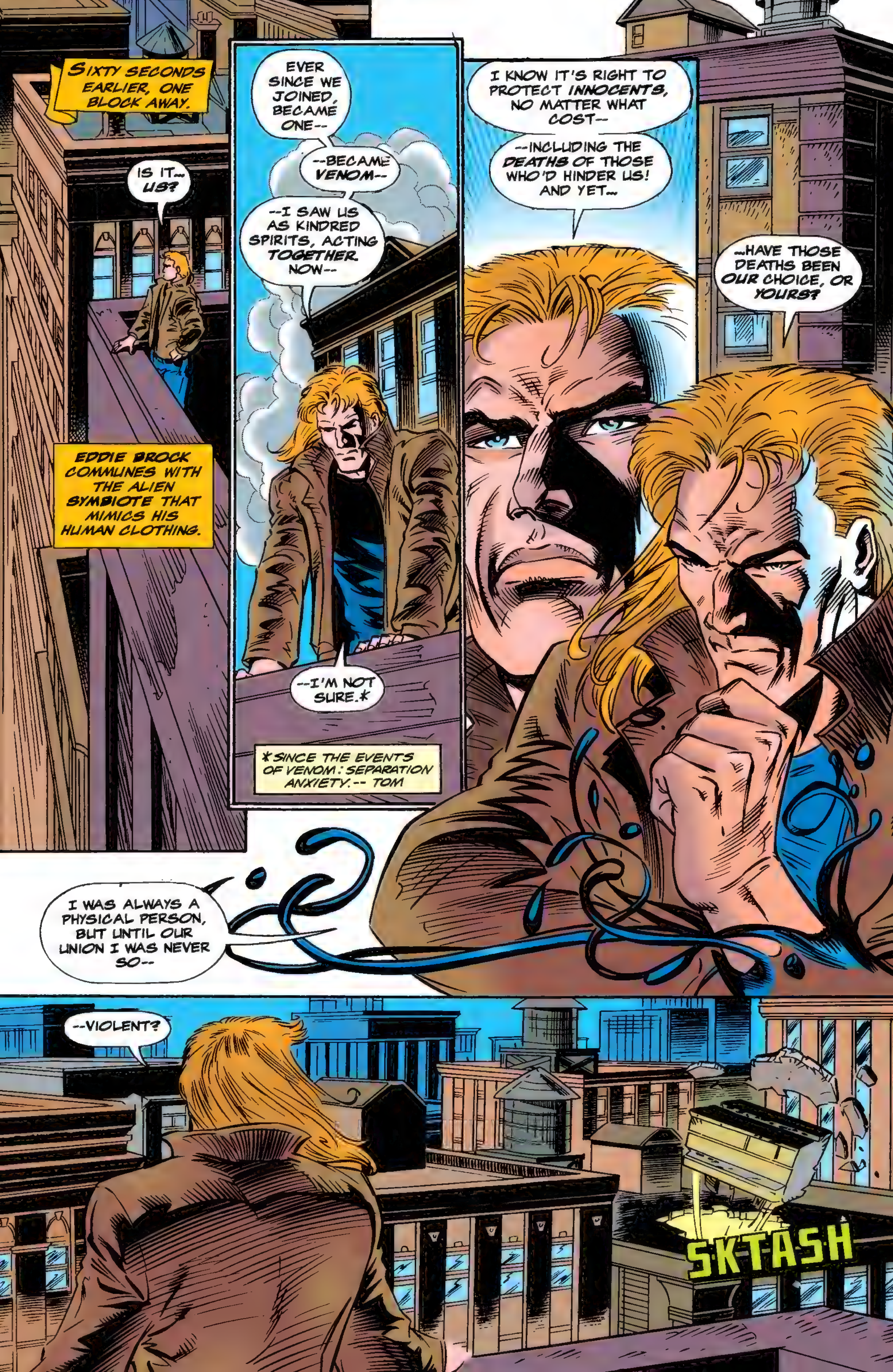
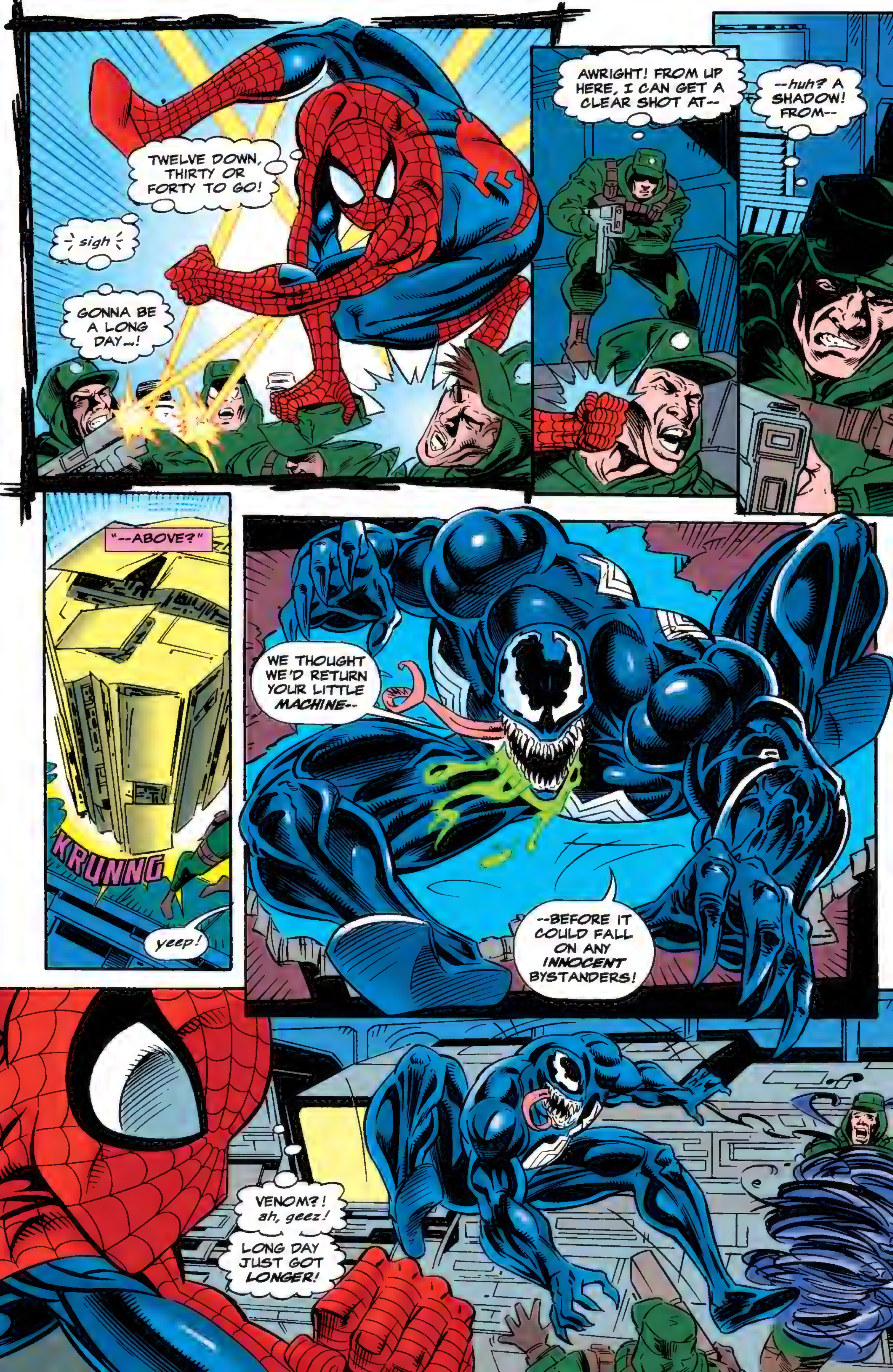
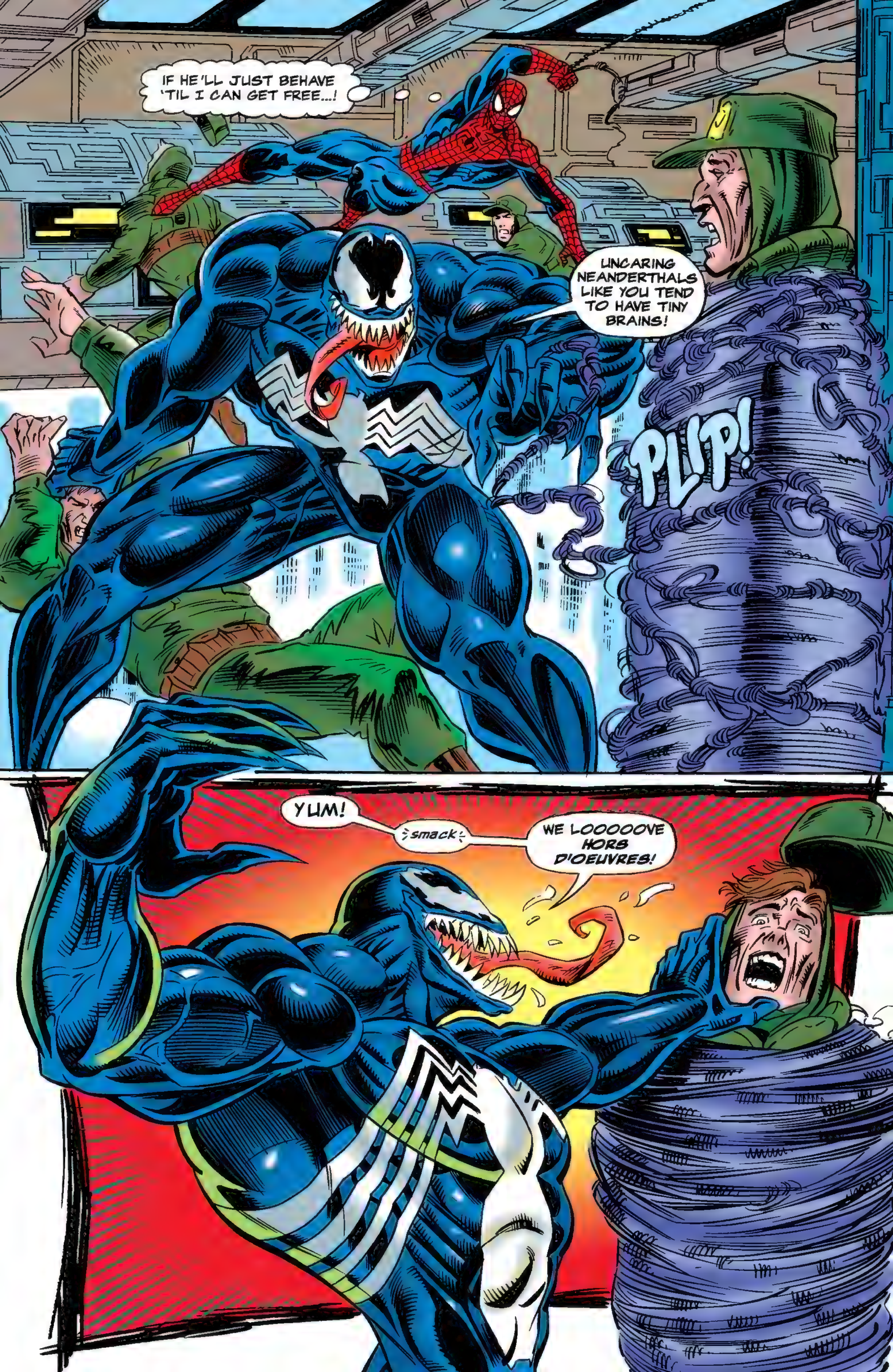
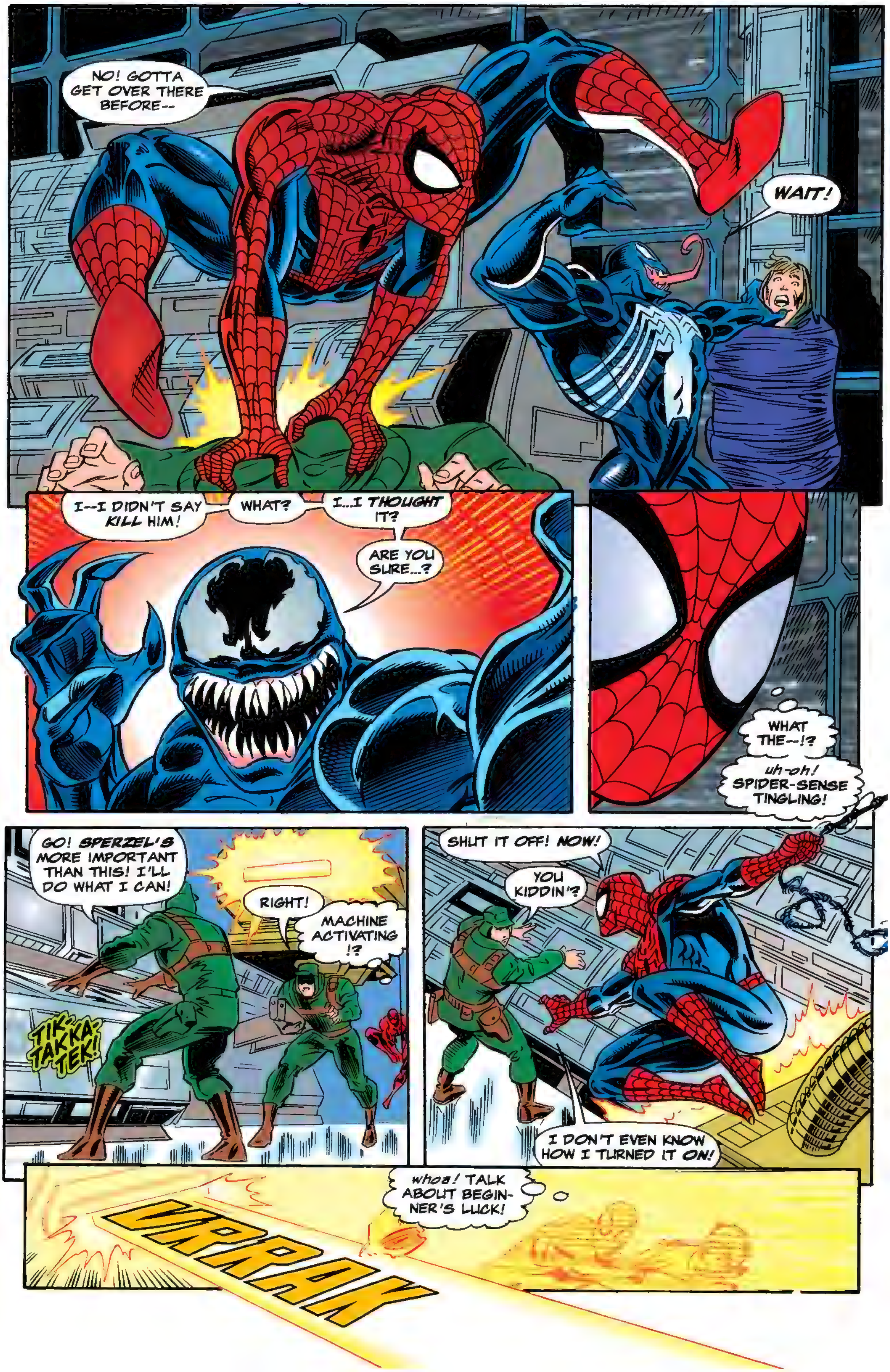
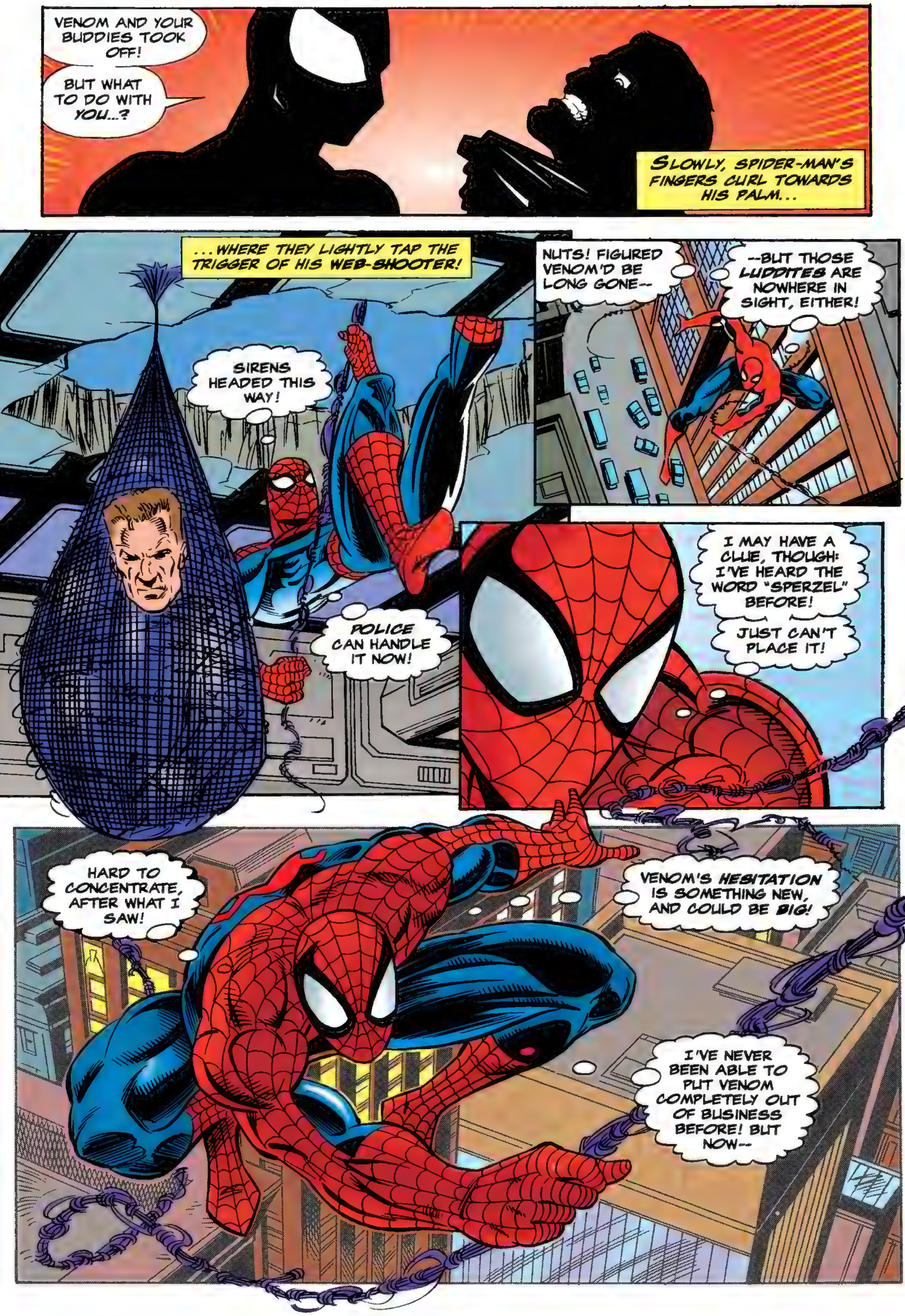

YOU SAY YOU'RE *NEO-LUDDITES,* WANT TO ELIMINATE *TECHNOLOGY*--
--BUT YOU DO IT WITH STOLEN *LASER* RIFLES?!?
TALK ABOUT *MEGA*-HYPOCRISY--!
THE DEVIL'S *ARMS* SERVE WELL AGAINST THE DEVIL'S *WORK!*
BESIDES, DESTROYING THAT *CLYSTRON WAVE MODULATOR* IS WORTH ANY COMPROMISE!
THAT'S THEIR TARGET? THAT BIG MACHINE SUSPENDED OVERHEAD?
IT COMPACTS ENERGY WAVES, MULTIPLYING THE STRENGTH OF ANY ATTACHED *POWER SOURCE* BY TEN!
TECHNOLOGY ALREADY BLIGHTS THE ENVIRONMENT-- THIS "ADVANCE" COULD INCREASE THAT DETERIORATION *TENFOLD!*
SPIDER-SENSE TINGLING!
CAUGHT IN A SQUEEZE PLAY!
CAN'T TUMBLE AWAY IN TIME!
BUT WITH THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH OF A *SPIDER*--
TOK
"--I DON'T HAVE TO!"
SKTASH

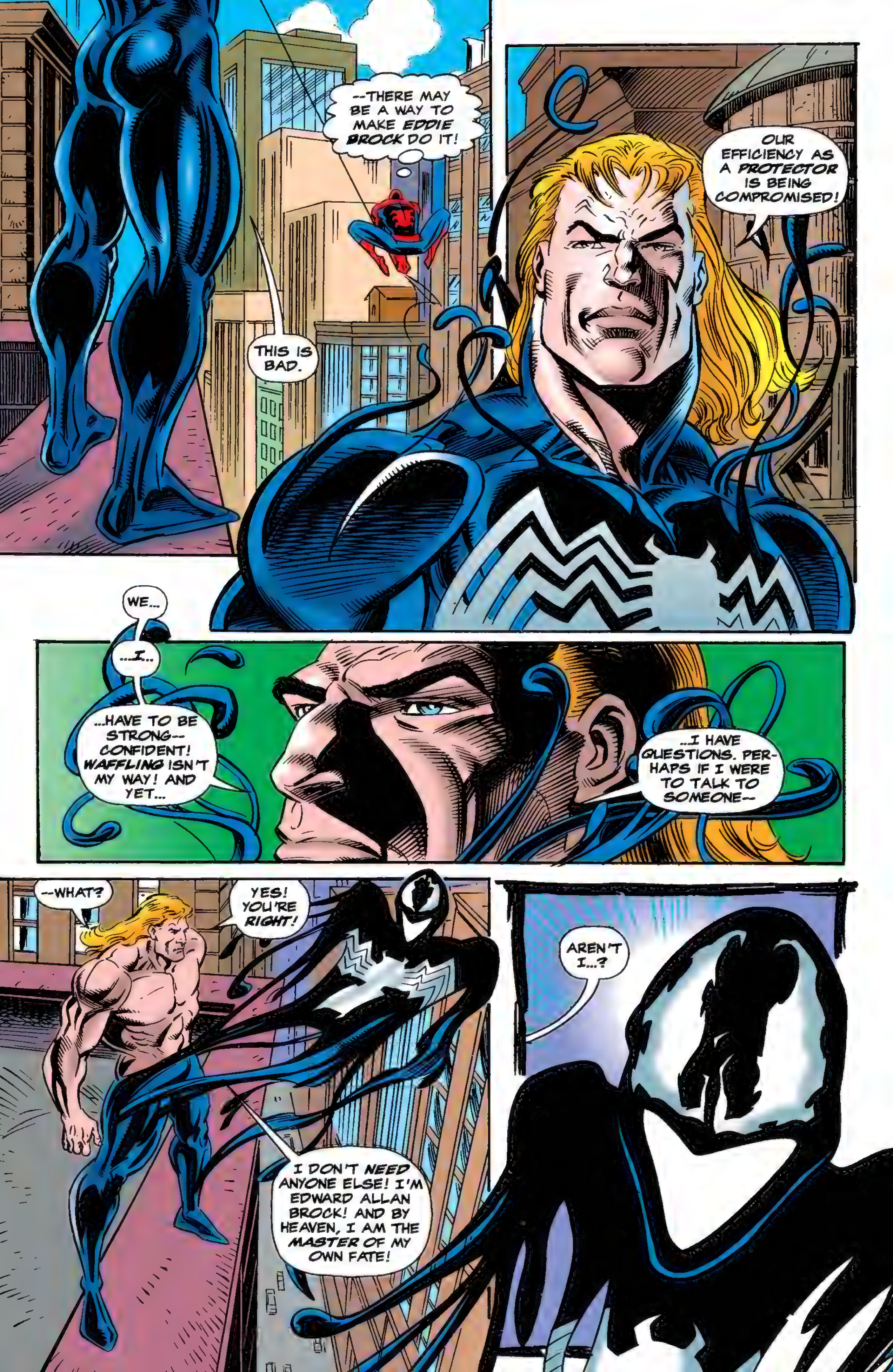

SIXTY SECONDS EARLIER, ONE BLOCK AWAY.
IS IT... US?
EDDIE BROCK COMMUNES WITH THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE THAT MIMICS HIS HUMAN CLOTHING.
EVER SINCE WE JOINED, BECAME ONE--
--BECAME VENOM--
--I SAW US AS KINDRED SPIRITS, ACTING TOGETHER NOW--
--I'M NOT SURE.*
*SINCE THE EVENTS OF VENOM: SEPARATION ANXIETY. -- TOM
I KNOW IT'S RIGHT TO PROTECT INNOCENTS, NO MATTER WHAT COST--
--INCLUDING THE DEATHS OF THOSE WHO'D HINDER US! AND YET...
...HAVE THOSE DEATHS BEEN OUR CHOICE, OR YOURS?
I WAS ALWAYS A PHYSICAL PERSON, BUT UNTIL OUR UNION I WAS NEVER SO--
--VIOLENT?
SKTASH

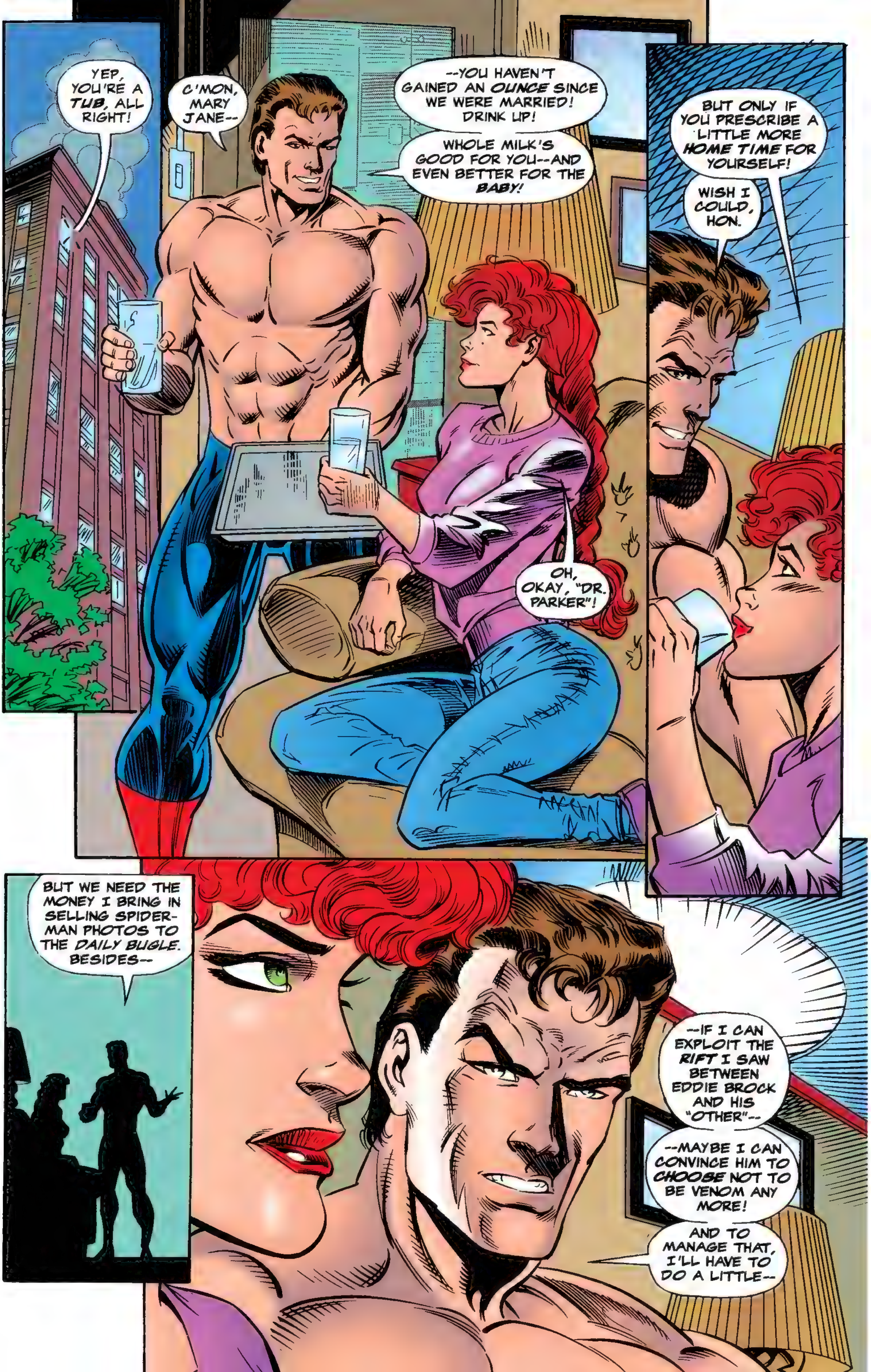

TWELVE DOWN, THIRTY OR FORTY TO GO!
-sigh-
GONNA BE A LONG DAY...!
AWRIGHT! FROM UP HERE, I CAN GET A CLEAR SHOT AT--
--huh? A SHADOW! FROM--
"--ABOVE?"
KRUNNG
yeep!
WE THOUGHT WE'D RETURN YOUR LITTLE *MACHINE*--
--BEFORE IT COULD FALL ON ANY *INNOCENT* BYSTANDERS!
VENOM?! *ah, geez!*
LONG DAY JUST GOT *LONGER!*

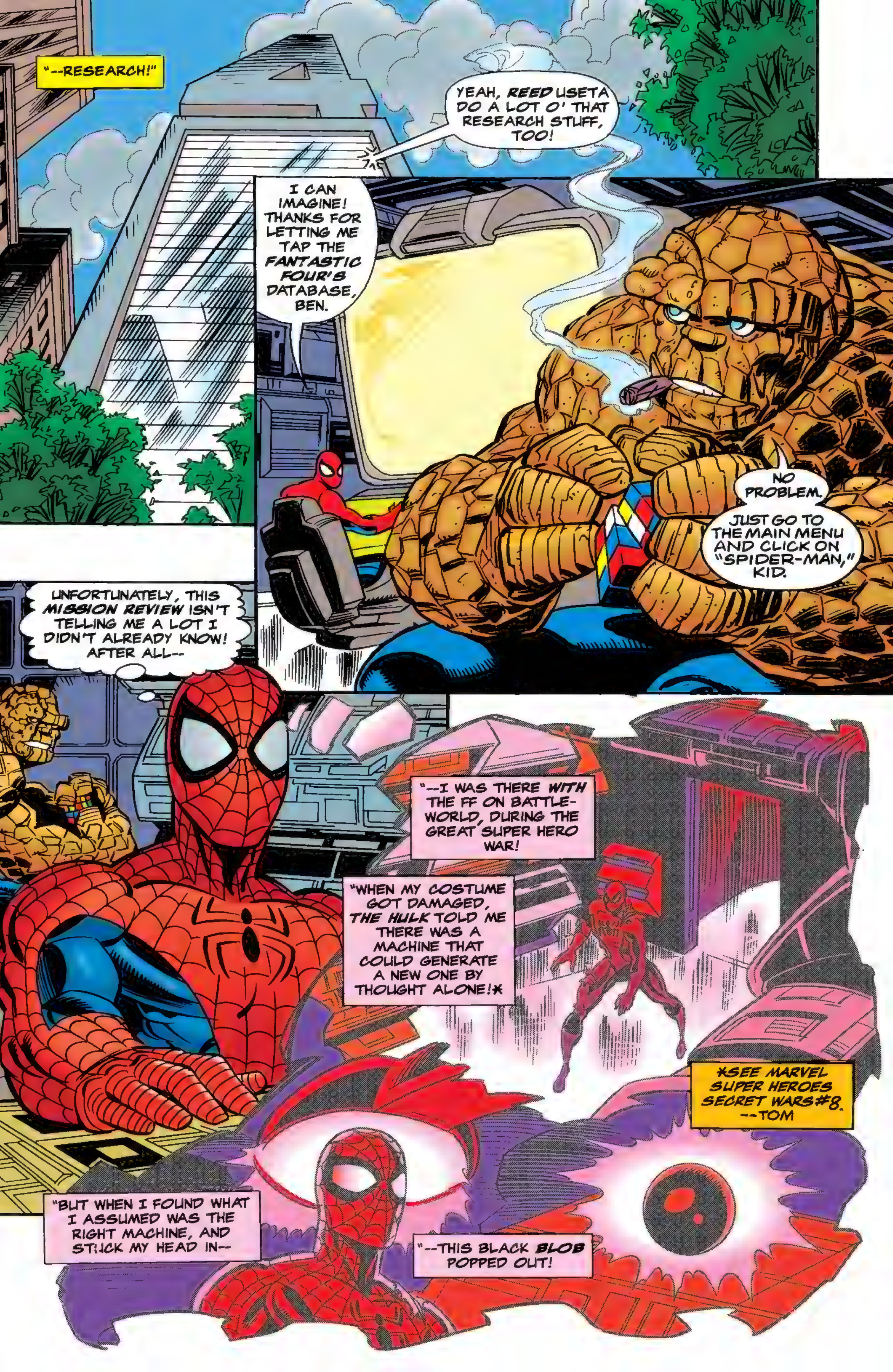

IF HE'LL JUST BEHAVE 'TIL I CAN GET FREE...!
UNCARING NEANDERTHALS LIKE YOU TEND TO HAVE TINY BRAINS!
PLIP!
YUM!
smack
WE LOOOOOVE HORS D'OEUVRES!

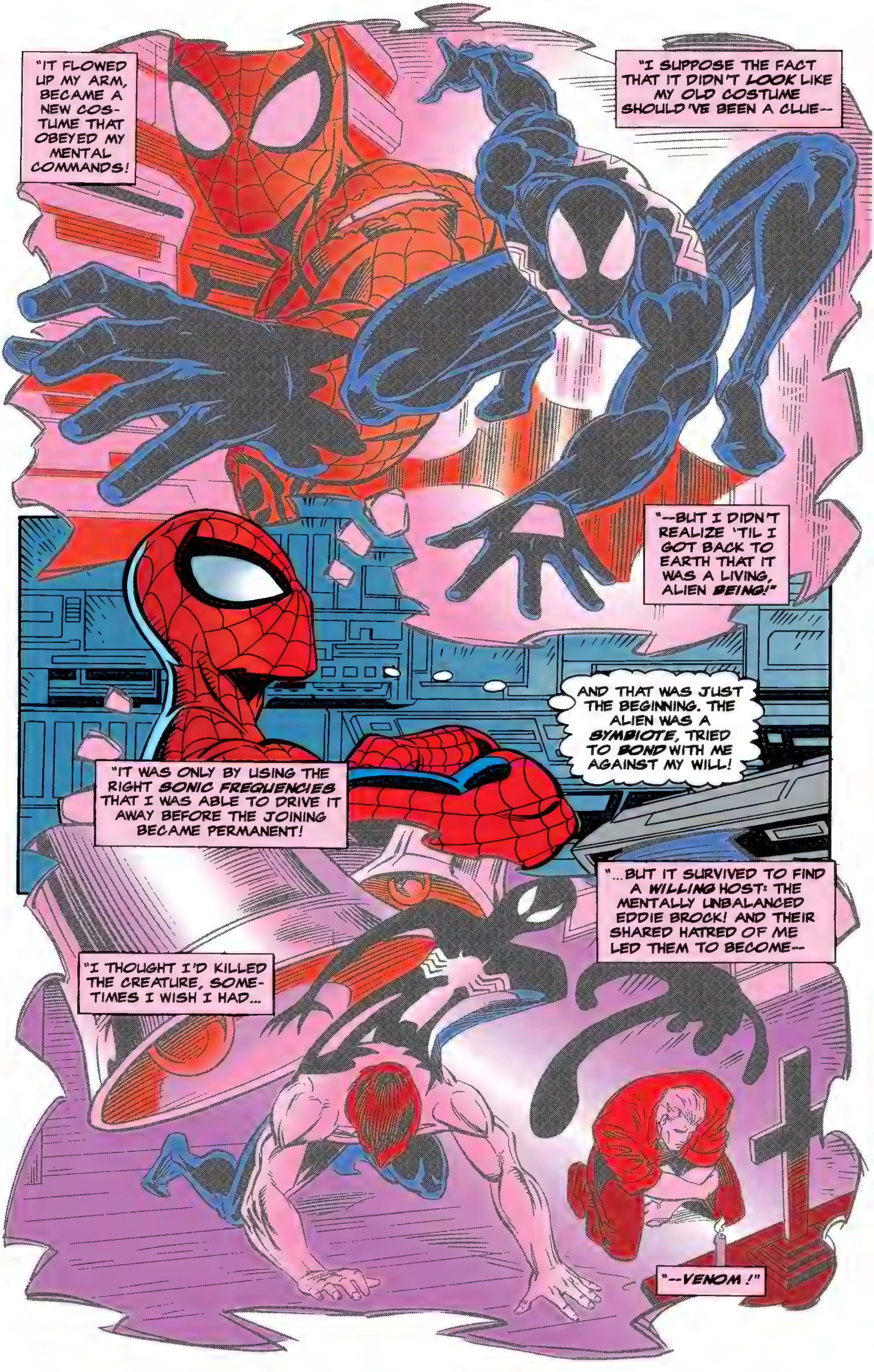

NO! GOTTA GET OVER THERE BEFORE--
WAIT!
I--I DIDN'T SAY KILL HIM!
WHAT?
I...I THOUGHT IT?
ARE YOU SURE...?
WHAT THE--!?
uh-oh! SPIDER-SENSE TINGLING!
GO! SPERZEL'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN THIS! I'LL DO WHAT I CAN!
RIGHT!
MACHINE ACTIVATING!?
TIK-TAKKA-TEK!
SHUT IT OFF! NOW!
YOU KIDDIN'?
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW I TURNED IT ON!
whoa! TALK ABOUT BEGINNER'S LUCK!
VRRAK

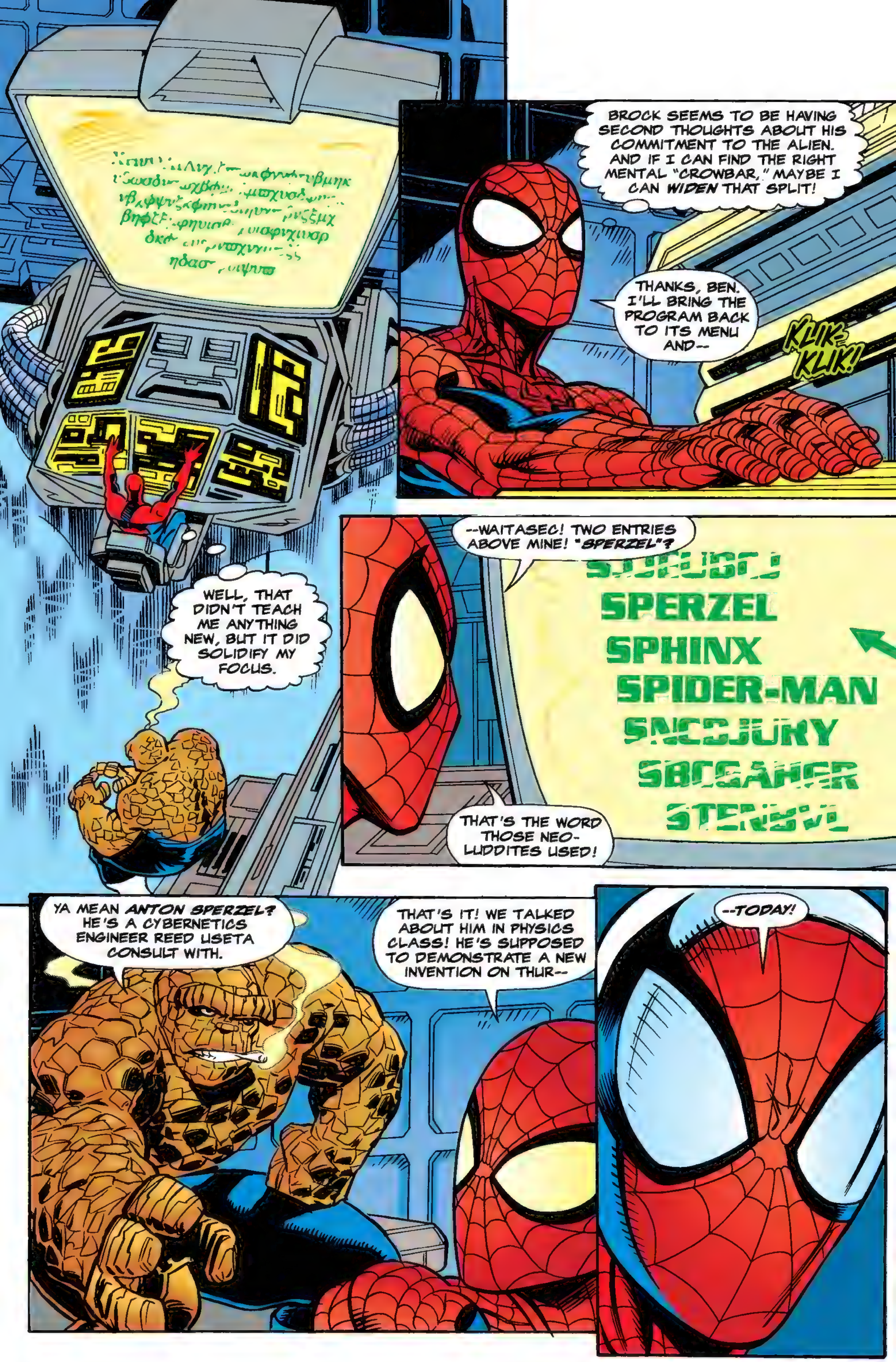

VENOM AND YOUR BUDDIES TOOK OFF!
BUT WHAT TO DO WITH YOU...?
SLOWLY, SPIDER-MAN'S FINGERS CURL TOWARDS HIS PALM...
...WHERE THEY LIGHTLY TAP THE TRIGGER OF HIS WEB-SHOOTER!
SIRENS HEADED THIS WAY!
POLICE CAN HANDLE IT NOW!
NUTS! FIGURED VENOM'D BE LONG GONE--
--BUT THOSE LUDDITES ARE NOWHERE IN SIGHT, EITHER!
I MAY HAVE A CLUE, THOUGH: I'VE HEARD THE WORD "SPERZEL" BEFORE!
JUST CAN'T PLACE IT!
HARD TO CONCENTRATE, AFTER WHAT I SAW!
VENOM'S HESITATION IS SOMETHING NEW, AND COULD BE BIG!
I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO PUT VENOM COMPLETELY OUT OF BUSINESS BEFORE! BUT NOW--

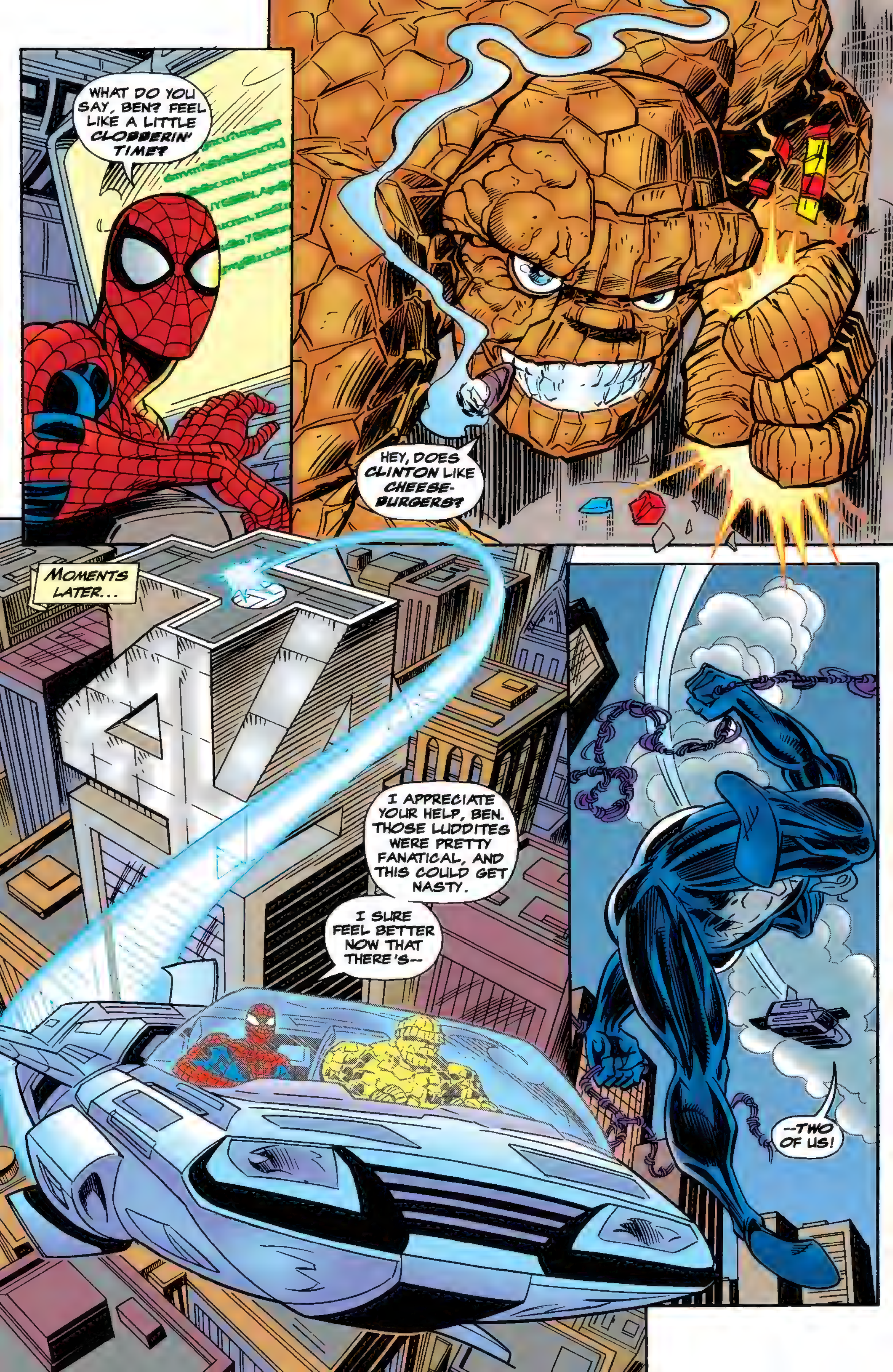

--THERE MAY BE A WAY TO MAKE *EDDIE BROCK* DO IT!
THIS IS BAD.
OUR EFFICIENCY AS A *PROTECTOR* IS BEING COMPROMISED!
WE...
...I...
...HAVE TO BE STRONG--CONFIDENT! *WAFFLING* ISN'T MY WAY! AND YET...
...I HAVE QUESTIONS. PERHAPS IF I WERE TO TALK TO SOMEONE--
--WHAT?
YES! YOU'RE *RIGHT!*
I DON'T *NEED* ANYONE ELSE! I'M EDWARD ALLAN BROCK! AND BY HEAVEN, I AM THE *MASTER OF MY* OWN FATE!
AREN'T I...?

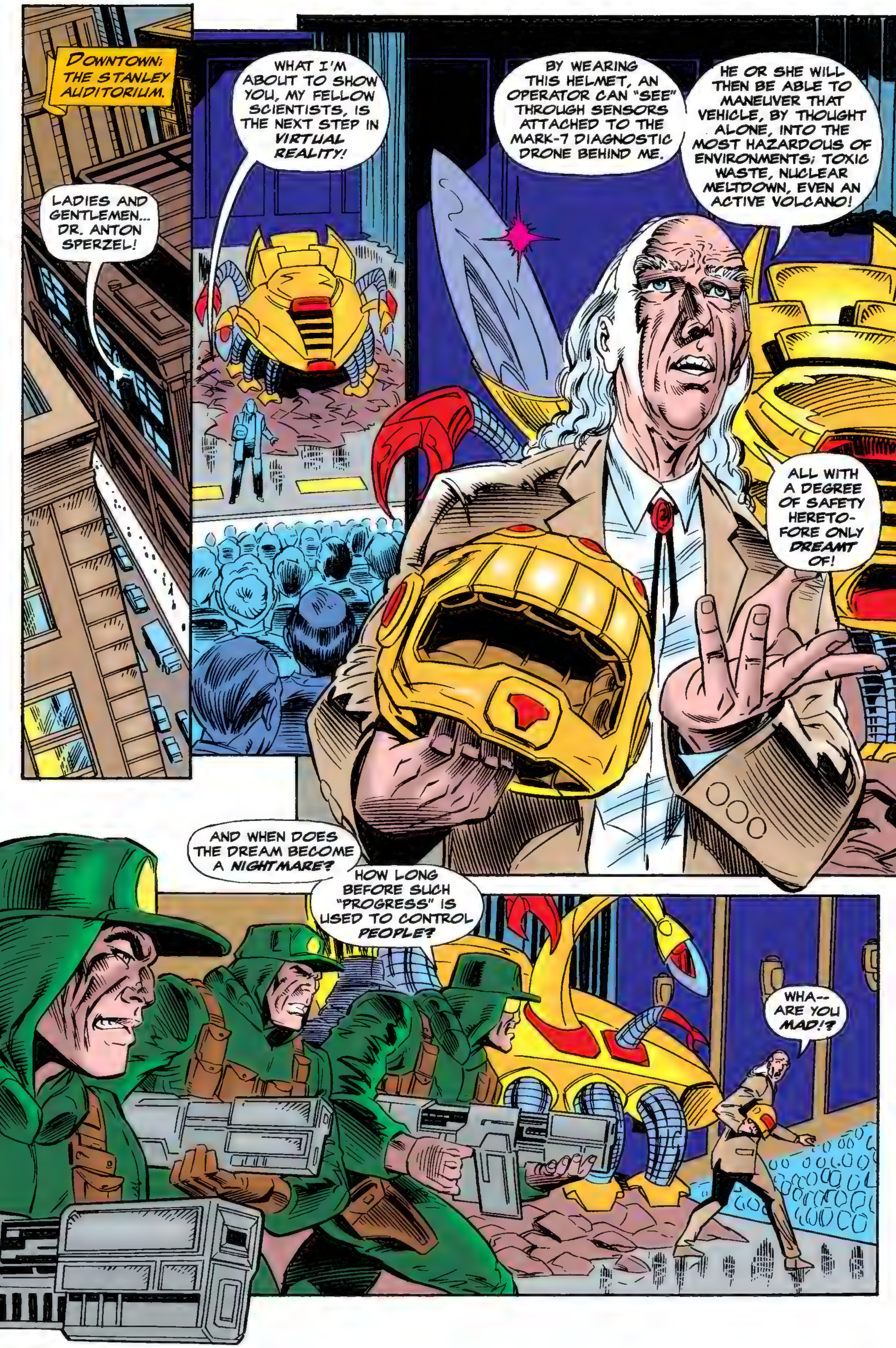

YEP, YOU'RE A *TUB*, ALL RIGHT!
C'MON, MARY JANE--
--YOU HAVEN'T GAINED AN *OUNCE* SINCE WE WERE MARRIED! DRINK UP!
WHOLE MILK'S GOOD FOR YOU--AND EVEN BETTER FOR THE *BABY!*
OH, OKAY, "DR. PARKER"!
BUT ONLY IF YOU PRESCRIBE A LITTLE MORE *HOME TIME* FOR YOURSELF!
WISH I COULD, HON.
BUT WE NEED THE MONEY I BRING IN SELLING SPIDER-MAN PHOTOS TO THE *DAILY BUGLE*. BESIDES--
--IF I CAN EXPLOIT THE *RIFT* I SAW BETWEEN EDDIE BROCK AND HIS "OTHER"--
--MAYBE I CAN CONVINCE HIM TO *CHOOSE* NOT TO BE VENOM ANY MORE!
AND TO MANAGE THAT, I'LL HAVE TO DO A LITTLE--

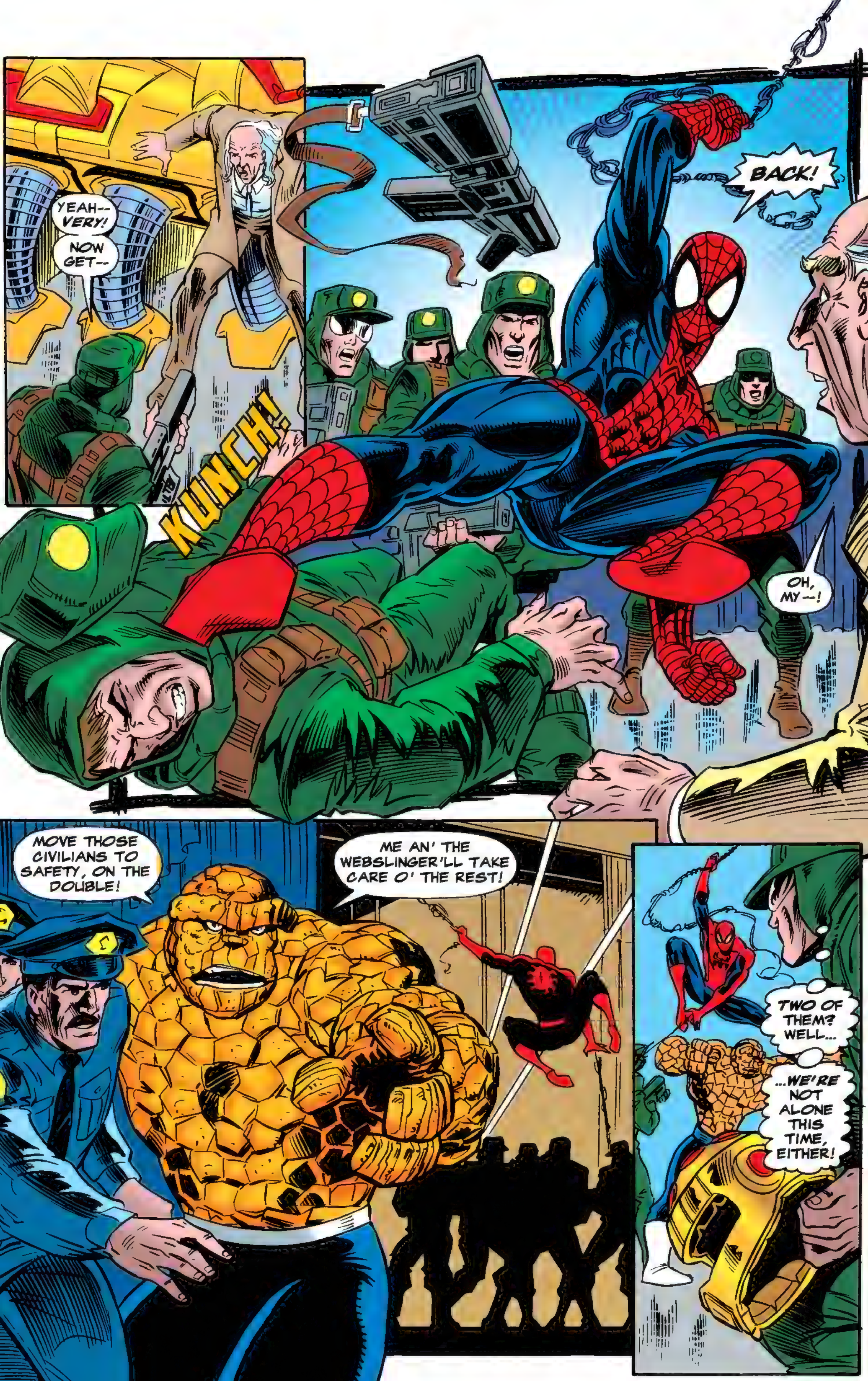

"--RESEARCH!"
YEAH, *REED* USETA DO A LOT O' THAT RESEARCH STUFF, TOO!
I CAN IMAGINE! THANKS FOR LETTING ME TAP THE *FANTASTIC FOUR'S* DATABASE, BEN.
NO PROBLEM.
JUST GO TO THE MAIN MENU AND CLICK ON "SPIDER-MAN," KID.
UNFORTUNATELY, THIS *MISSION REVIEW* ISN'T TELLING ME A LOT I DIDN'T ALREADY KNOW! AFTER ALL--
"--I WAS THERE *WITH* THE FF ON BATTLE-WORLD, DURING THE GREAT SUPER HERO WAR!
"WHEN MY *COSTUME* GOT DAMAGED, *THE HULK* TOLD ME THERE WAS A MACHINE THAT COULD GENERATE A NEW ONE BY THOUGHT ALONE!*
*SEE MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS #8. --TOM
"BUT WHEN I FOUND WHAT I ASSUMED WAS THE RIGHT MACHINE, AND STUCK MY HEAD IN--
"--THIS BLACK *BLOB* POPPED OUT!

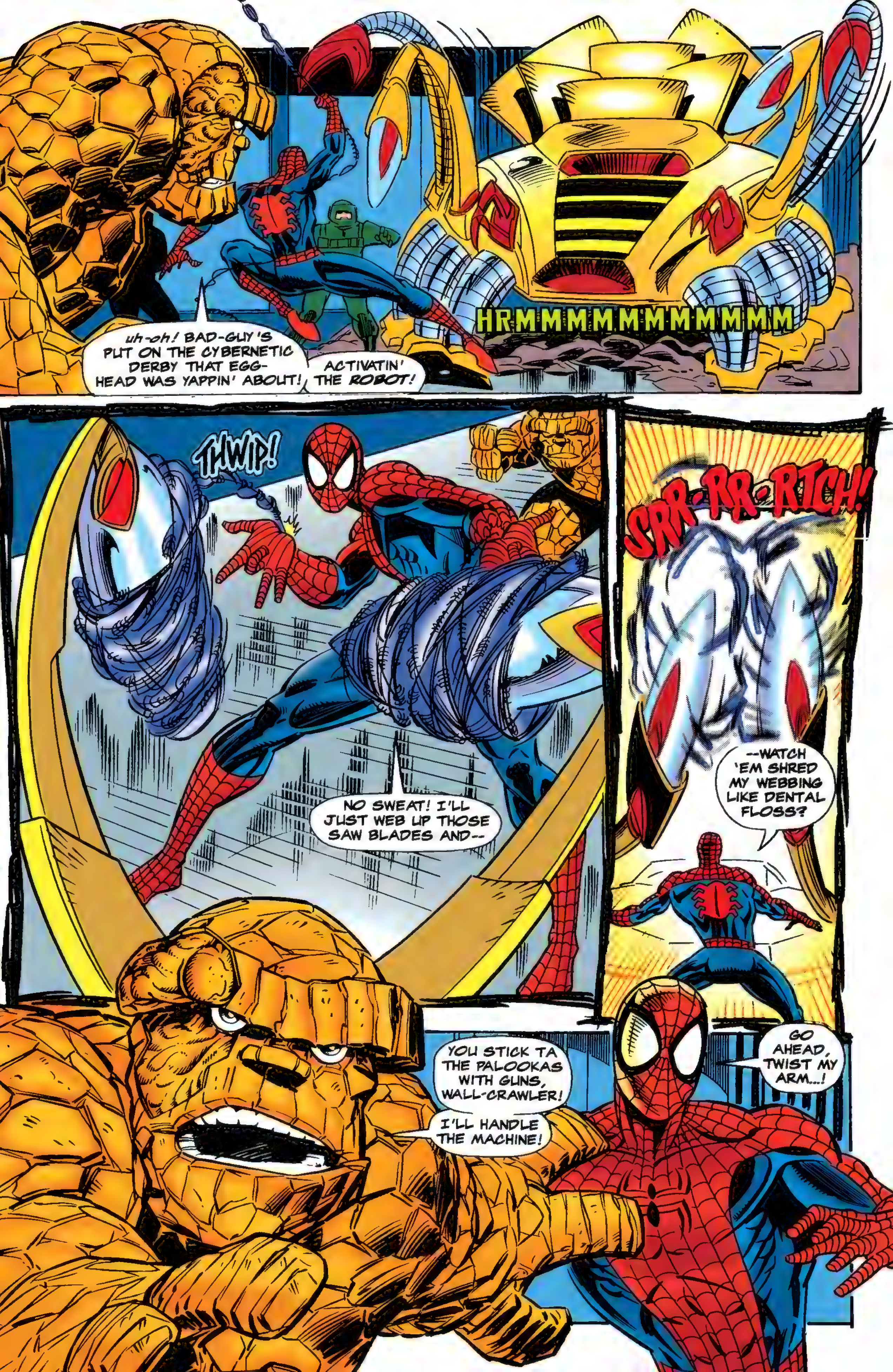

"IT FLOWED UP MY ARM, BECAME A NEW COSTUME THAT OBEYED MY MENTAL COMMANDS!
"I SUPPOSE THE FACT THAT IT DIDN'T *LOOK* LIKE MY OLD COSTUME SHOULD'VE BEEN A CLUE--
"--BUT I DIDN'T REALIZE 'TIL I GOT BACK TO EARTH THAT IT WAS A LIVING, ALIEN *BEING!*"
AND THAT WAS JUST THE BEGINNING. THE ALIEN WAS A *SYMBIOTE*, TRIED TO *BOND* WITH ME AGAINST MY WILL!
"IT WAS ONLY BY USING THE RIGHT *SONIC FREQUENCIES* THAT I WAS ABLE TO DRIVE IT AWAY BEFORE THE JOINING BECAME PERMANENT!
"...BUT IT SURVIVED TO FIND A *WILLING* HOST: THE MENTALLY UNBALANCED EDDIE BROCK! AND THEIR SHARED HATRED OF ME LED THEM TO BECOME--
"I THOUGHT I'D KILLED THE CREATURE, SOMETIMES I WISH I HAD...
"--*VENOM!*"

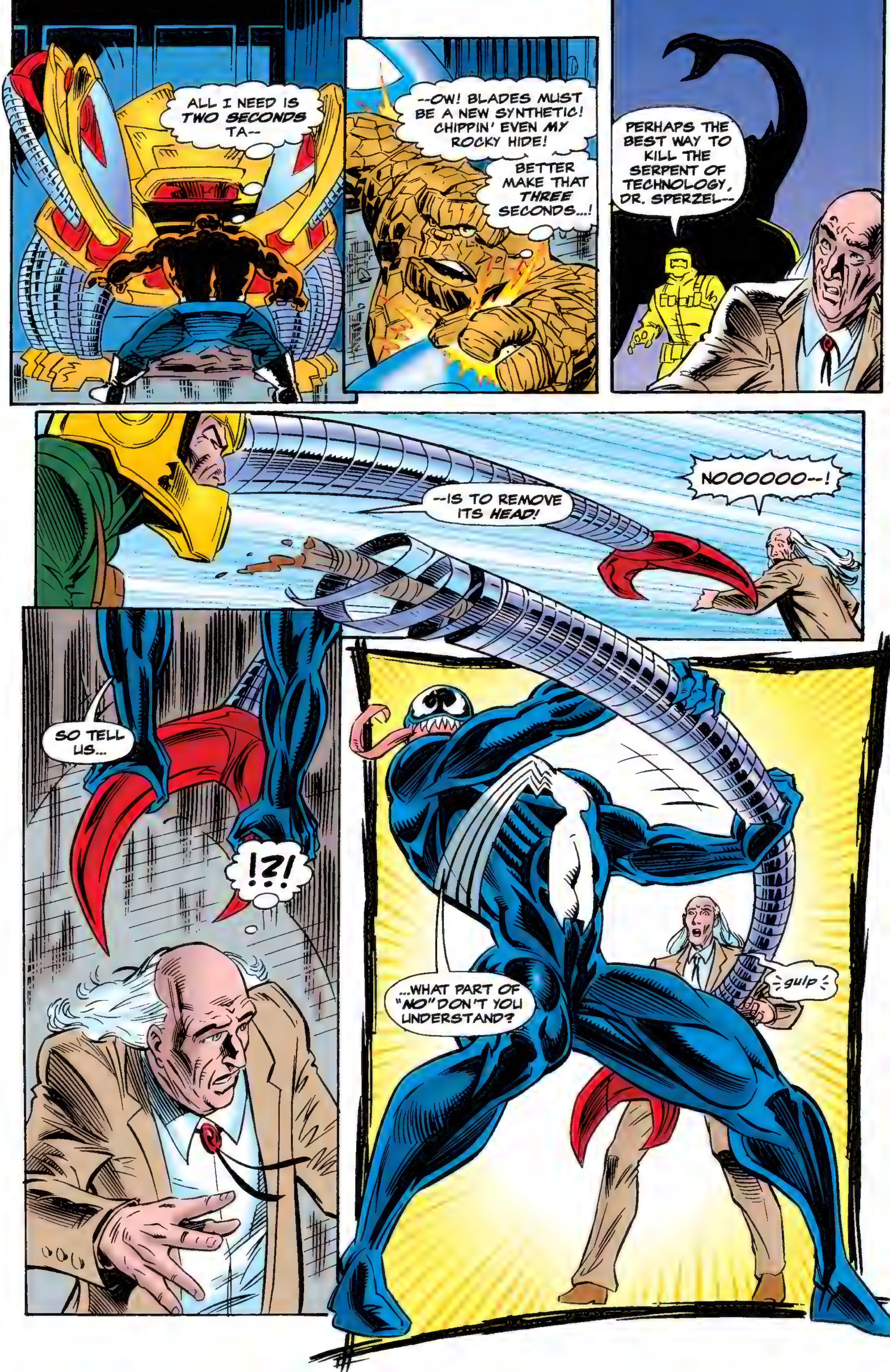

WELL, THAT DIDN'T TEACH ME ANYTHING NEW, BUT IT DID SOLIDIFY MY FOCUS.
BROCK SEEMS TO BE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT HIS COMMITMENT TO THE ALIEN. AND IF I CAN FIND THE RIGHT MENTAL "CROWBAR," MAYBE I CAN *WIDEN* THAT SPLIT!
THANKS, BEN. I'LL BRING THE PROGRAM BACK TO ITS MENU AND--
KLIK-KLIK!
--WAITASEC! TWO ENTRIES ABOVE MINE! "*SPERZEL*"?
SPERZEL
SPHINX
SPIDER-MAN
THAT'S THE WORD THOSE NEO-LUDDITES USED!
YA MEAN *ANTON SPERZEL?* HE'S A CYBERNETICS ENGINEER REED USETA CONSULT WITH.
THAT'S IT! WE TALKED ABOUT HIM IN PHYSICS CLASS! HE'S SUPPOSED TO DEMONSTRATE A NEW INVENTION ON THUR--
--*TODAY!*

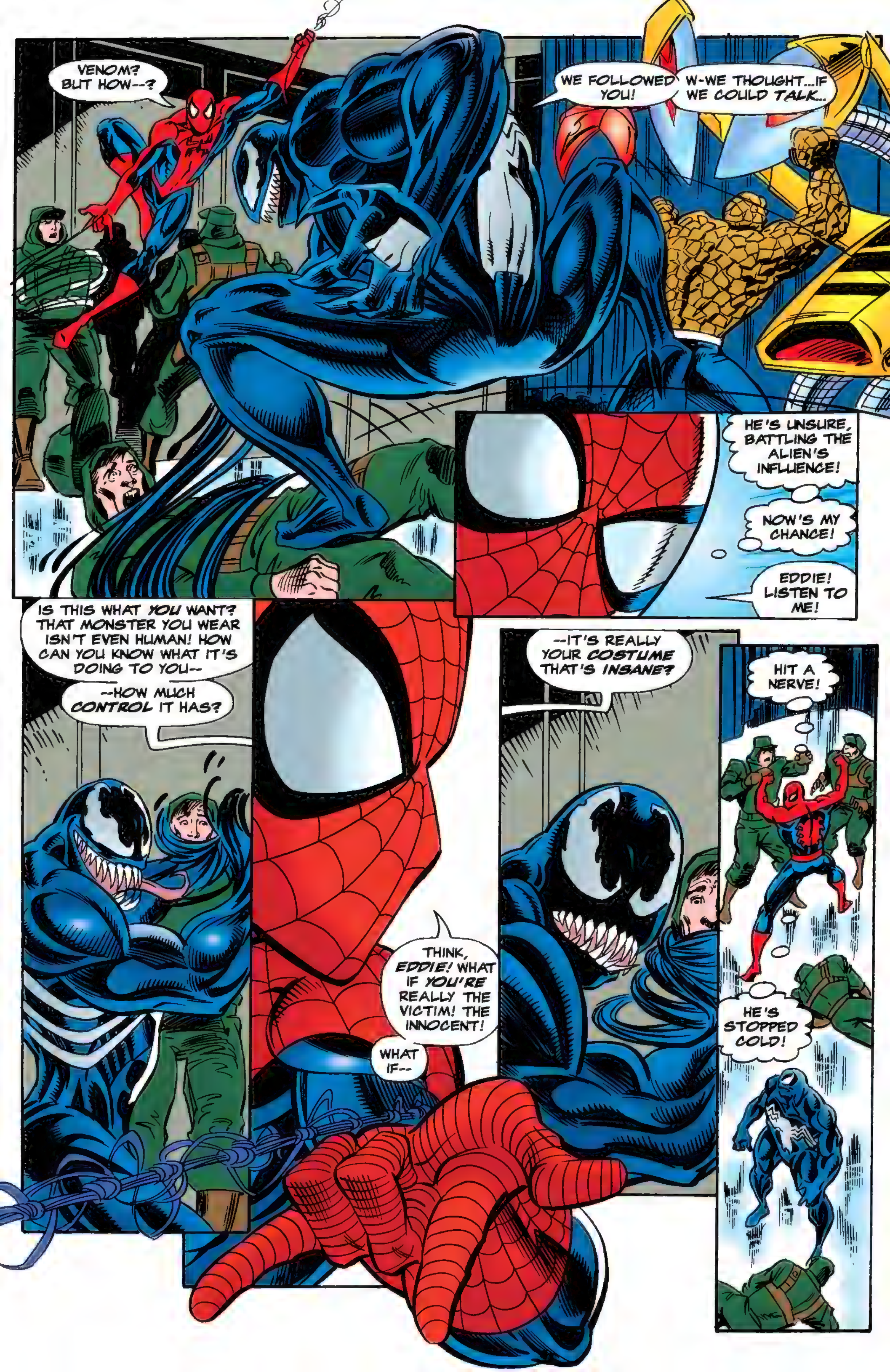

WHAT DO YOU SAY, BEN? FEEL LIKE A LITTLE *CLOBBERIN'* TIME?
HEY, DOES *CLINTON* LIKE *CHEESE-BURGERS?*
MOMENTS LATER...
I APPRECIATE YOUR HELP, BEN. THOSE LUDDITES WERE PRETTY FANATICAL, AND THIS COULD GET NASTY.
I SURE FEEL BETTER NOW THAT THERE'S--
--TWO OF US!

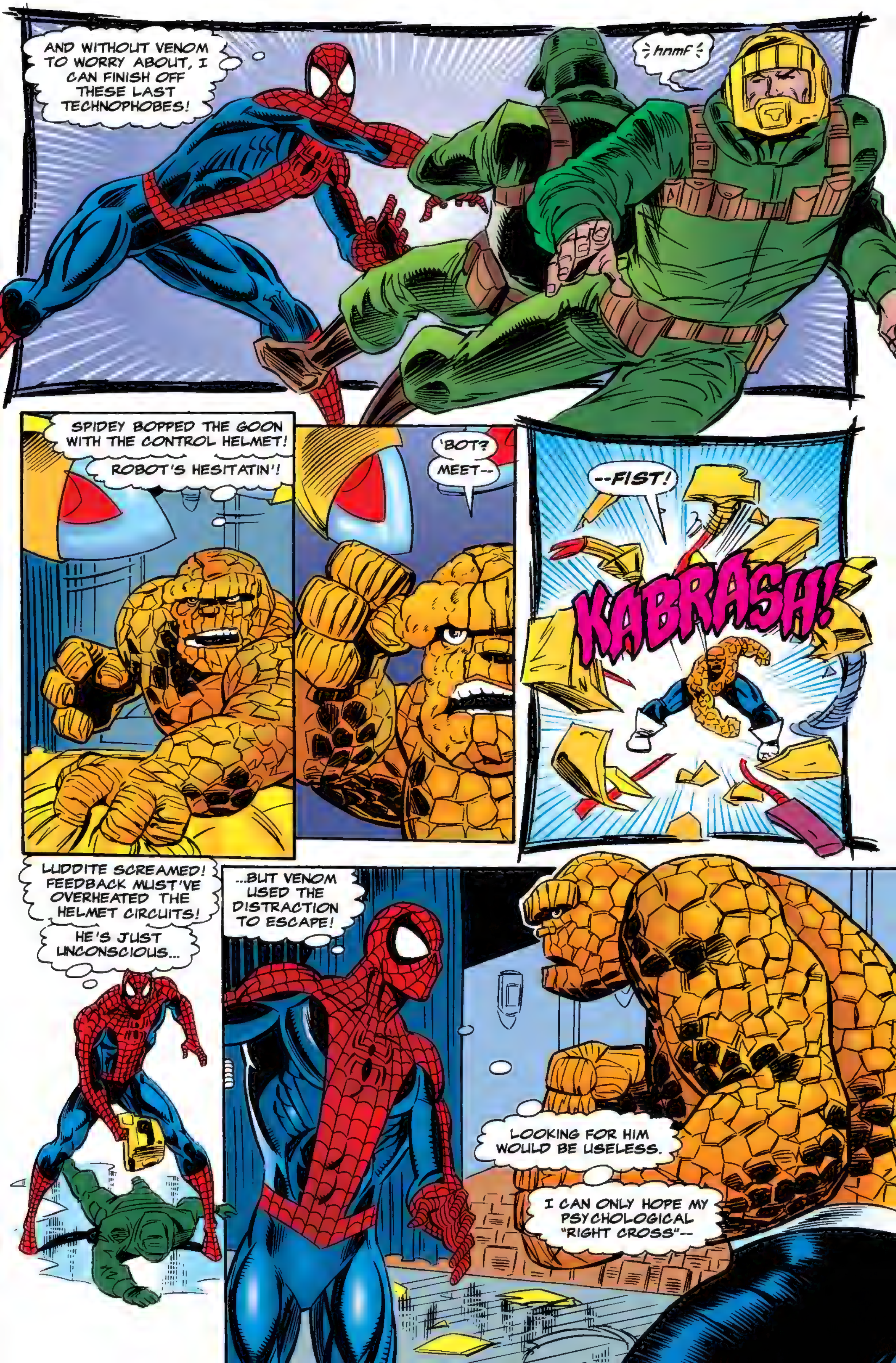

DOWNTOWN; THE STANLEY AUDITORIUM.
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... DR. ANTON SPERZEL!
WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SHOW YOU, MY FELLOW SCIENTISTS, IS THE NEXT STEP IN *VIRTUAL REALITY!*
BY WEARING THIS HELMET, AN OPERATOR CAN "SEE" THROUGH SENSORS ATTACHED TO THE MARK-7 DIAGNOSTIC DRONE BEHIND ME.
HE OR SHE WILL THEN BE ABLE TO MANEUVER THAT VEHICLE, BY THOUGHT ALONE, INTO THE MOST HAZARDOUS OF ENVIRONMENTS; TOXIC WASTE, NUCLEAR MELTDOWN, EVEN AN ACTIVE VOLCANO!
ALL WITH A DEGREE OF SAFETY HERETOFORE ONLY *DREAMT* OF!
AND WHEN DOES THE DREAM BECOME A *NIGHTMARE?*
HOW LONG BEFORE SUCH "PROGRESS" IS USED TO CONTROL *PEOPLE?*
WHA-- ARE YOU *MAD!?*

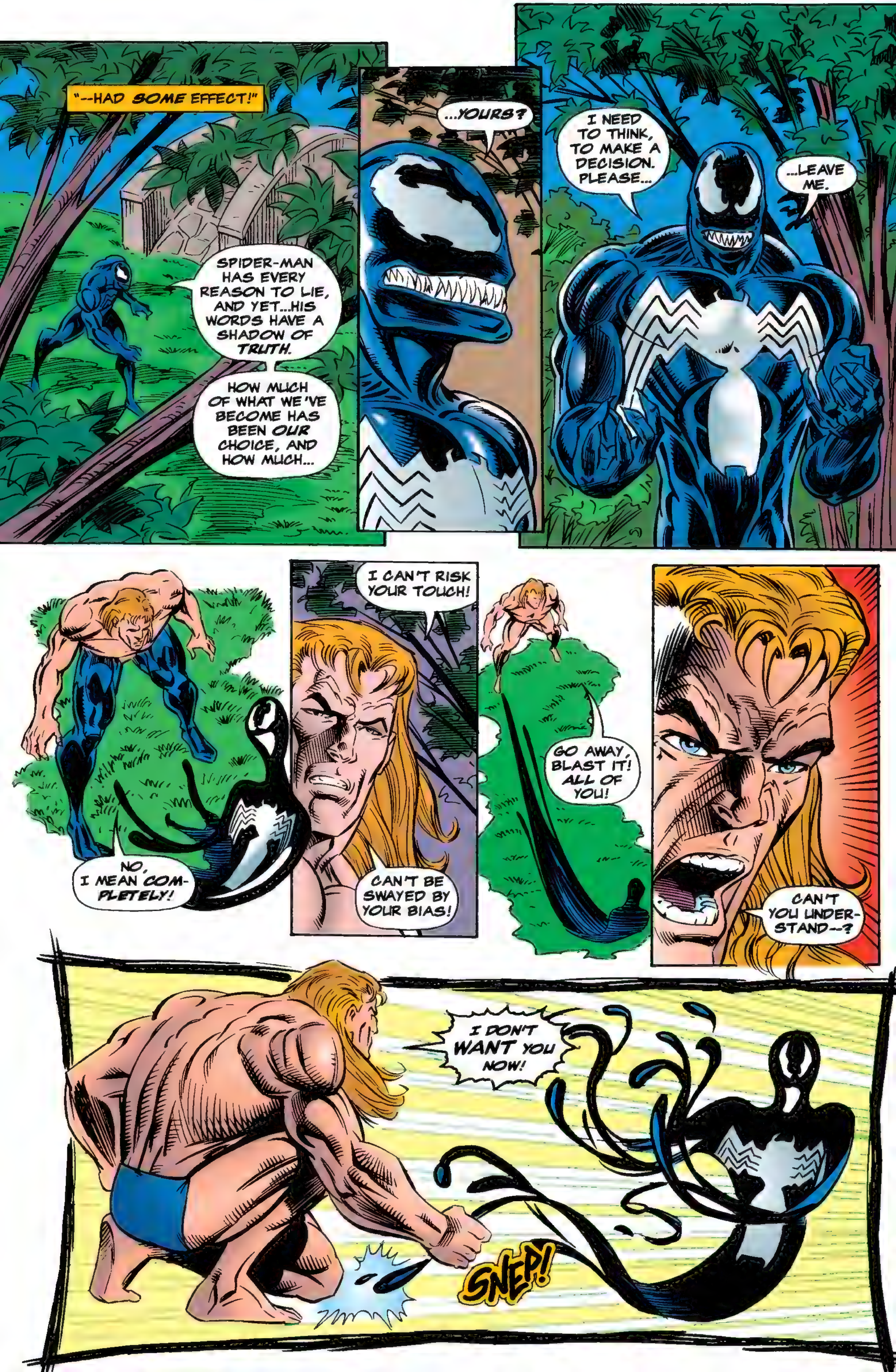

YEAH-- VERY!
NOW GET--
KUNCH!
BACK!
OH, MY--!
MOVE THOSE CIVILIANS TO SAFETY, ON THE DOUBLE!
ME AN' THE WEBSLINGER'LL TAKE CARE O' THE REST!
TWO OF THEM? WELL...
...WE'RE NOT ALONE THIS TIME, EITHER!

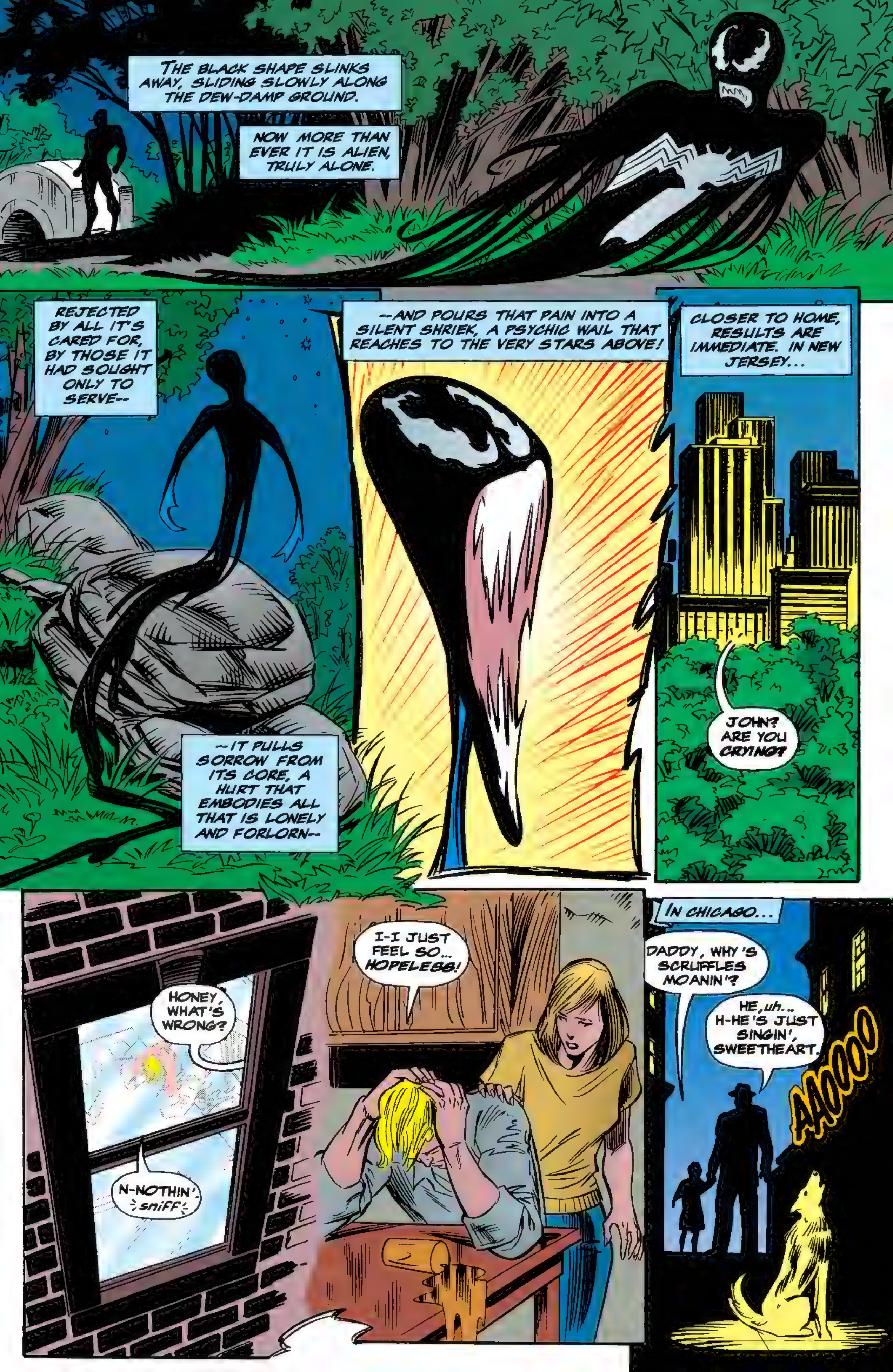

uh-oh! BAD-GUY'S PUT ON THE CYBERNETIC DERBY THAT EGG-HEAD WAS YAPPIN' ABOUT!
ACTIVATIN' THE *ROBOT!*
HRMMMMMMMMMMMMM
THWIP!
NO SWEAT! I'LL JUST WEB UP THOSE SAW BLADES AND--
SRR-RR-RTCH!
--WATCH 'EM SHRED MY WEBBING LIKE DENTAL FLOSS?
YOU STICK TA THE PALOOKAS WITH GUNS, WALL-CRAWLER!
I'LL HANDLE THE MACHINE!
GO AHEAD, TWIST MY ARM...!

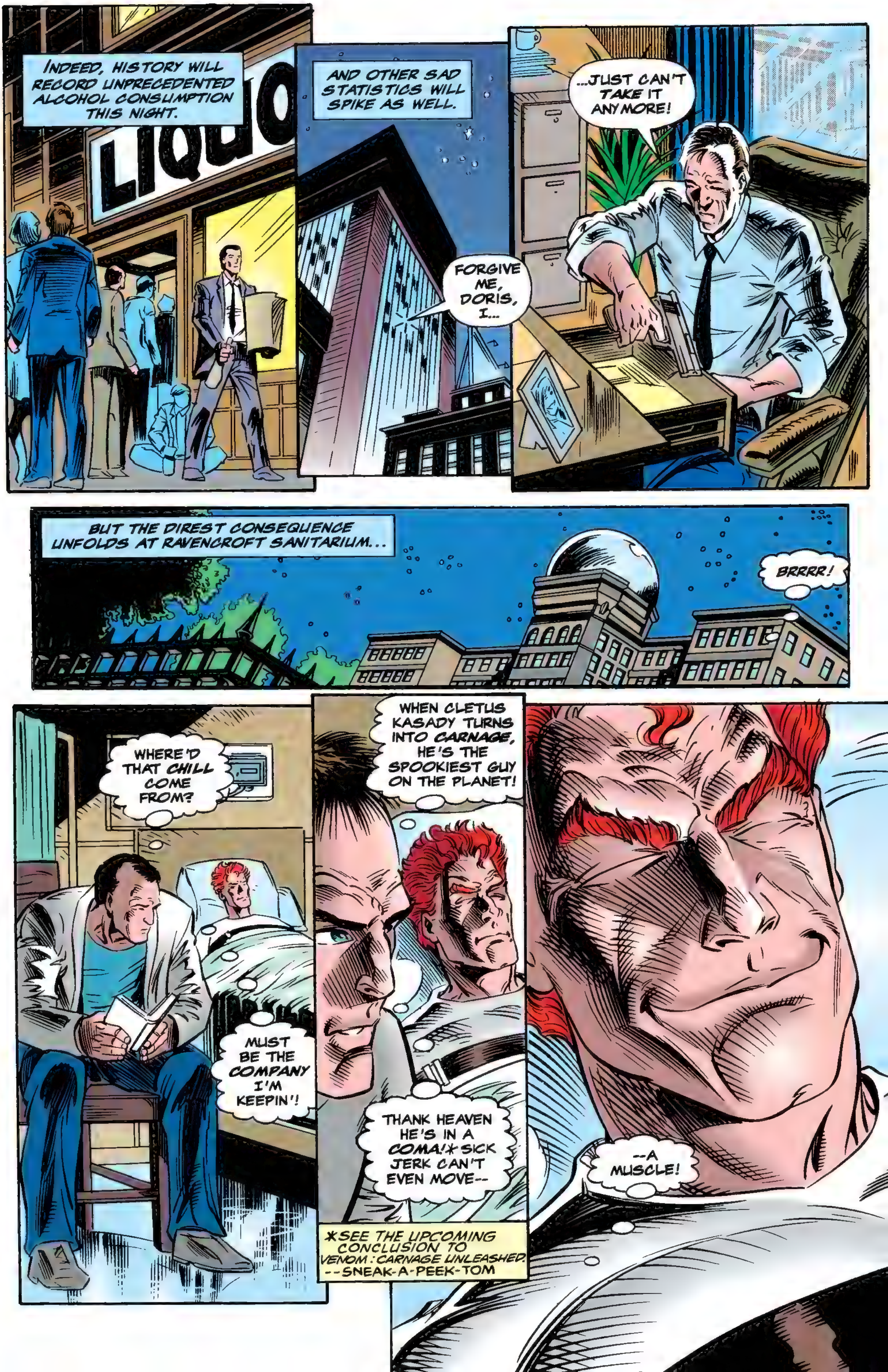

ALL I NEED IS *TWO SECONDS* TA--
--OW! BLADES MUST BE A NEW SYNTHETIC! CHIPPIN' EVEN *MY* ROCKY HIDE!
BETTER MAKE THAT *THREE* SECONDS...!
PERHAPS THE BEST WAY TO KILL THE SERPENT OF TECHNOLOGY, DR. SPERZEL--
--IS TO REMOVE ITS *HEAD!*
NOOOOOO--!
SO TELL US...
!?!
...WHAT PART OF "*NO*" DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
gulp

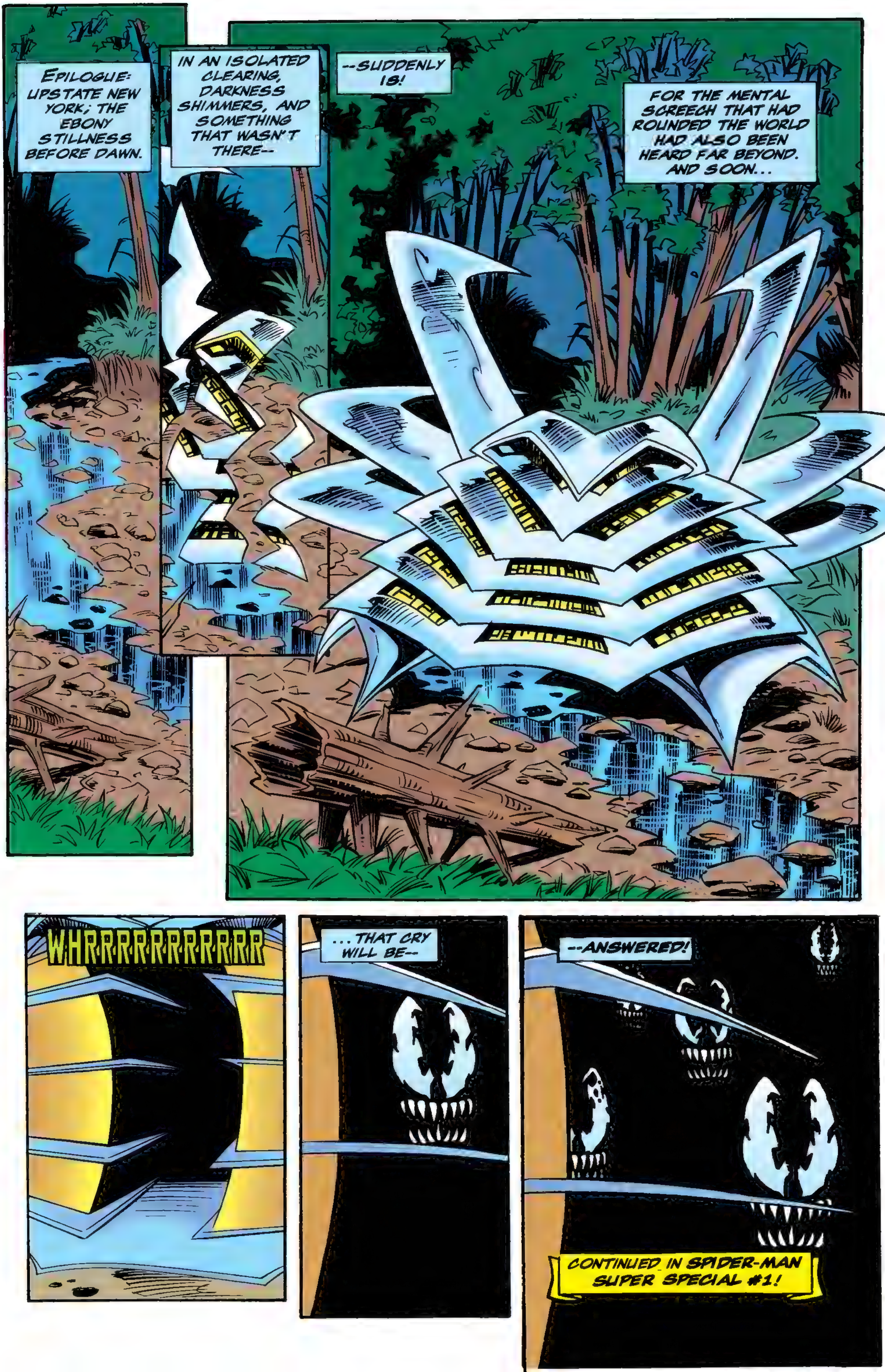

VENOM? BUT HOW--?
WE FOLLOWED YOU!
W-WE THOUGHT...IF WE COULD *TALK*..
HE'S UNSURE, BATTLING THE ALIEN'S INFLUENCE!
NOW'S MY CHANCE!
EDDIE! LISTEN TO ME!
IS THIS WHAT *YOU* WANT? THAT MONSTER YOU WEAR ISN'T EVEN HUMAN! HOW CAN YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S DOING TO YOU--
--HOW MUCH *CONTROL* IT HAS?
THINK, *EDDIE!* WHAT IF *YOU'RE* REALLY THE VICTIM! THE INNOCENT!
WHAT IF--
--IT'S REALLY YOUR *COSTUME* THAT'S *INSANE?*
HIT A NERVE!
HE'S STOPPED COLD!


AND WITHOUT VENOM TO WORRY ABOUT, I CAN FINISH OFF THESE LAST TECHNOPHOBES!
hnmf
SPIDEY BOPPED THE GOON WITH THE CONTROL HELMET!
ROBOT'S HESITATIN'!
'BOT? MEET--
--FIST!
KABRASH!
LUDDITE SCREAMED! FEEDBACK MUST'VE OVERHEATED THE HELMET CIRCUITS!
HE'S JUST UNCONSCIOUS...
...BUT VENOM USED THE DISTRACTION TO ESCAPE!
LOOKING FOR HIM WOULD BE USELESS.
I CAN ONLY HOPE MY PSYCHOLOGICAL "RIGHT CROSS"--

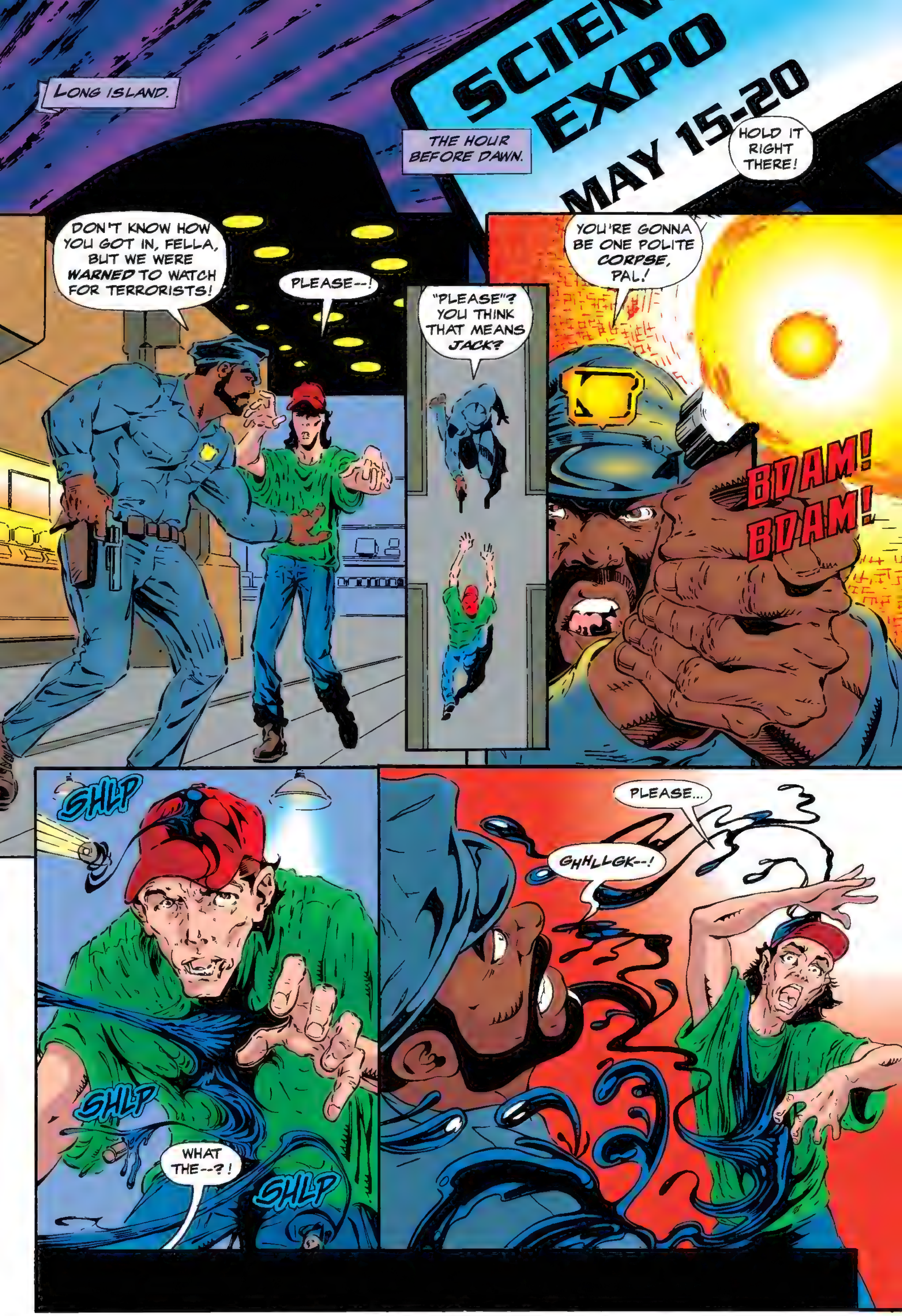

"--HAD *SOME* EFFECT!"
SPIDER-MAN HAS EVERY REASON TO LIE, AND YET...HIS WORDS HAVE A SHADOW OF *TRUTH*.
HOW MUCH OF WHAT WE'VE BECOME HAS BEEN *OUR* CHOICE, AND HOW MUCH...
...*YOURS?*
I NEED TO THINK, TO MAKE A DECISION. PLEASE...
...LEAVE ME.
NO, I MEAN *COMPLETELY!*
I CAN'T RISK YOUR TOUCH!
CAN'T BE SWAYED BY YOUR BIAS!
GO AWAY, BLAST IT! *ALL OF* YOU!
CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND--?
I DON'T *WANT* YOU NOW!
SNEP!

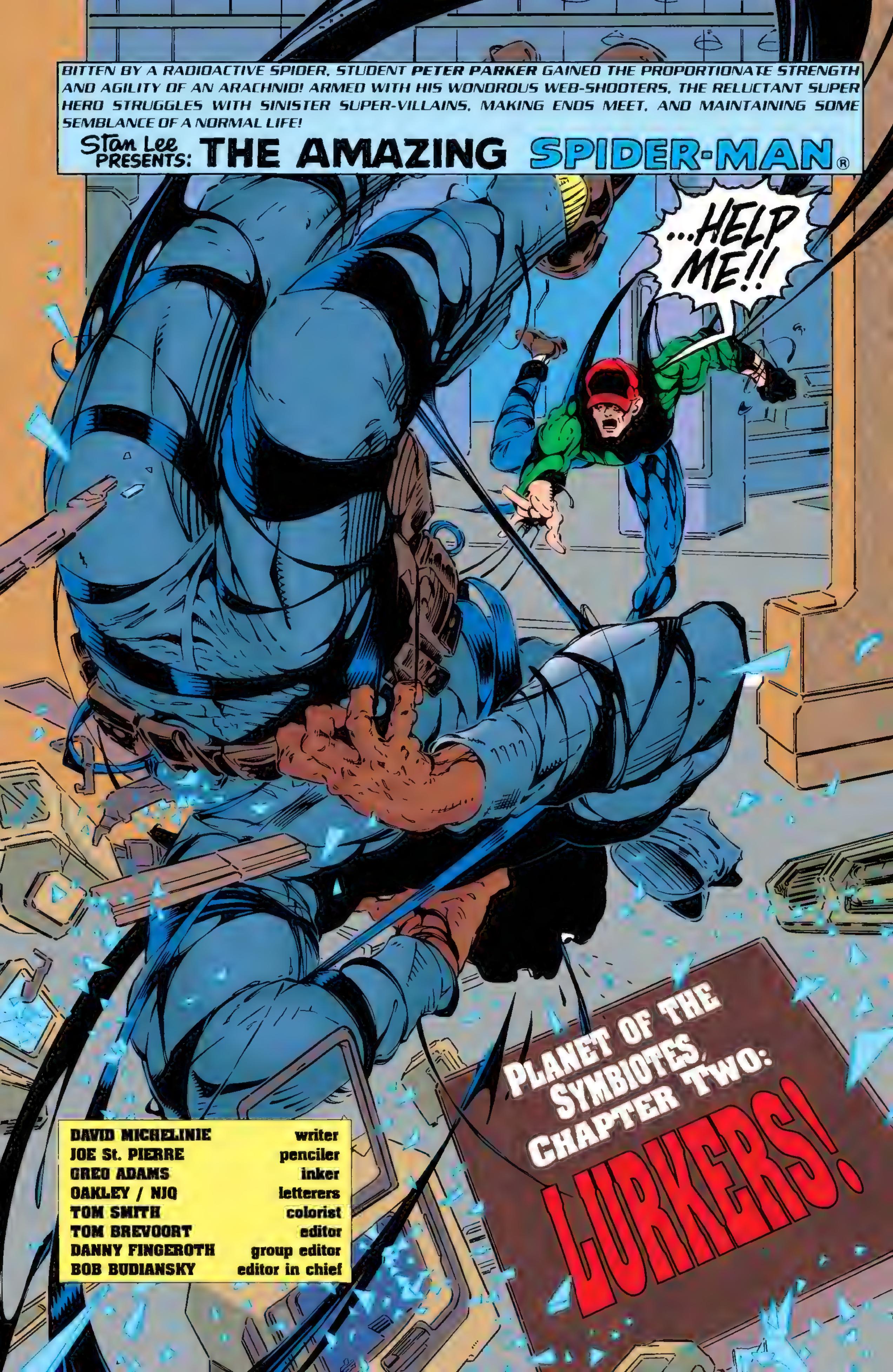

THE BLACK SHAPE SLINKS AWAY, SLIDING SLOWLY ALONG THE DEW-DAMP GROUND.
NOW MORE THAN EVER IT IS ALIEN, TRULY ALONE.
REJECTED BY ALL IT'S CARED FOR, BY THOSE IT HAD SOUGHT ONLY TO SERVE--
--IT PULLS SORROW FROM ITS CORE, A HURT THAT EMBODIES ALL THAT IS LONELY AND FORLORN--
--AND POURS THAT PAIN INTO A SILENT SHRIEK, A PSYCHIC WAIL THAT REACHES TO THE VERY STARS ABOVE!
CLOSER TO HOME, RESULTS ARE IMMEDIATE. IN NEW JERSEY...
JOHN? ARE YOU CRYING?
HONEY, WHAT'S WRONG?
N-NOTHIN'. sniff
I-I JUST FEEL SO... HOPELESS!
IN CHICAGO...
DADDY, WHY'S SCRUFFLES MOANIN'?
HE, uh... H-HE'S JUST SINGIN', SWEETHEART.
AAOOOO


INDEED, HISTORY WILL RECORD UNPRECEDENTED ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION THIS NIGHT.
LIQUO
AND OTHER SAD STATISTICS WILL SPIKE AS WELL.
...JUST CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!
FORGIVE ME, DORIS, I...
BUT THE DIREST CONSEQUENCE UNFOLDS AT RAVENCROFT SANITARIUM...
BRRRR!
WHERE'D THAT CHILL COME FROM?
MUST BE THE COMPANY I'M KEEPIN'!
WHEN CLETUS KASADY TURNS INTO CARNAGE, HE'S THE SPOOKIEST GUY ON THE PLANET!
THANK HEAVEN HE'S IN A COMA!* SICK JERK CAN'T EVEN MOVE--
*SEE THE UPCOMING CONCLUSION TO VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED. --SNEAK-A-PEEK-TOM
--A MUSCLE!


EPILOGUE: UPSTATE NEW YORK; THE EBONY STILLNESS BEFORE DAWN.
IN AN ISOLATED CLEARING, DARKNESS SHIMMERS, AND SOMETHING THAT WASN'T THERE--
--SUDDENLY IS!
FOR THE MENTAL SCREECH THAT HAD ROUNDED THE WORLD HAD ALSO BEEN HEARD FAR BEYOND. AND SOON...
WHRRRRRRRRRRRR
...THAT CRY WILL BE--
--ANSWERED!
CONTINUED IN SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL #1!

MARVEL COMICS
PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES
Part 2 of five
SPIDER-MAN
SUPER SPECIAL
#1
1995
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
ST. PIERRE
austin


LONG ISLAND.
SCIEN
EXPO
MAY 15-20
THE HOUR BEFORE DAWN.
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GOT IN, FELLA, BUT WE WERE WARNED TO WATCH FOR TERRORISTS!
PLEASE--!
"PLEASE"? YOU THINK THAT MEANS JACK?
YOU'RE GONNA BE ONE POLITE CORPSE, PAL!
BDAM! BDAM!
SHLP
SHLP
WHAT THE--?!
SHLP
PLEASE...
GHHLLGK--!



BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT **PETER PARKER** GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES, CHAPTER TWO: LURKERS!

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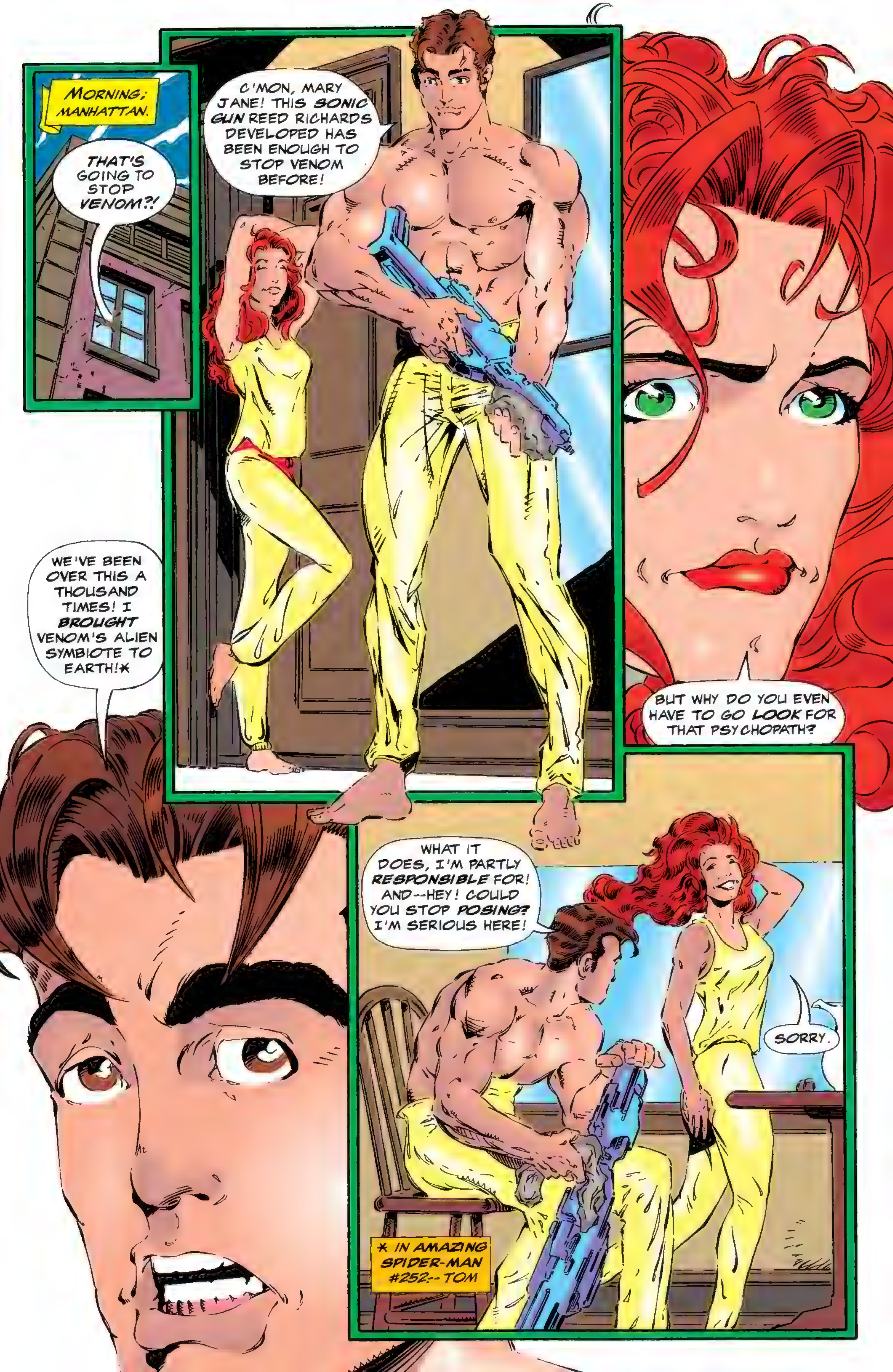
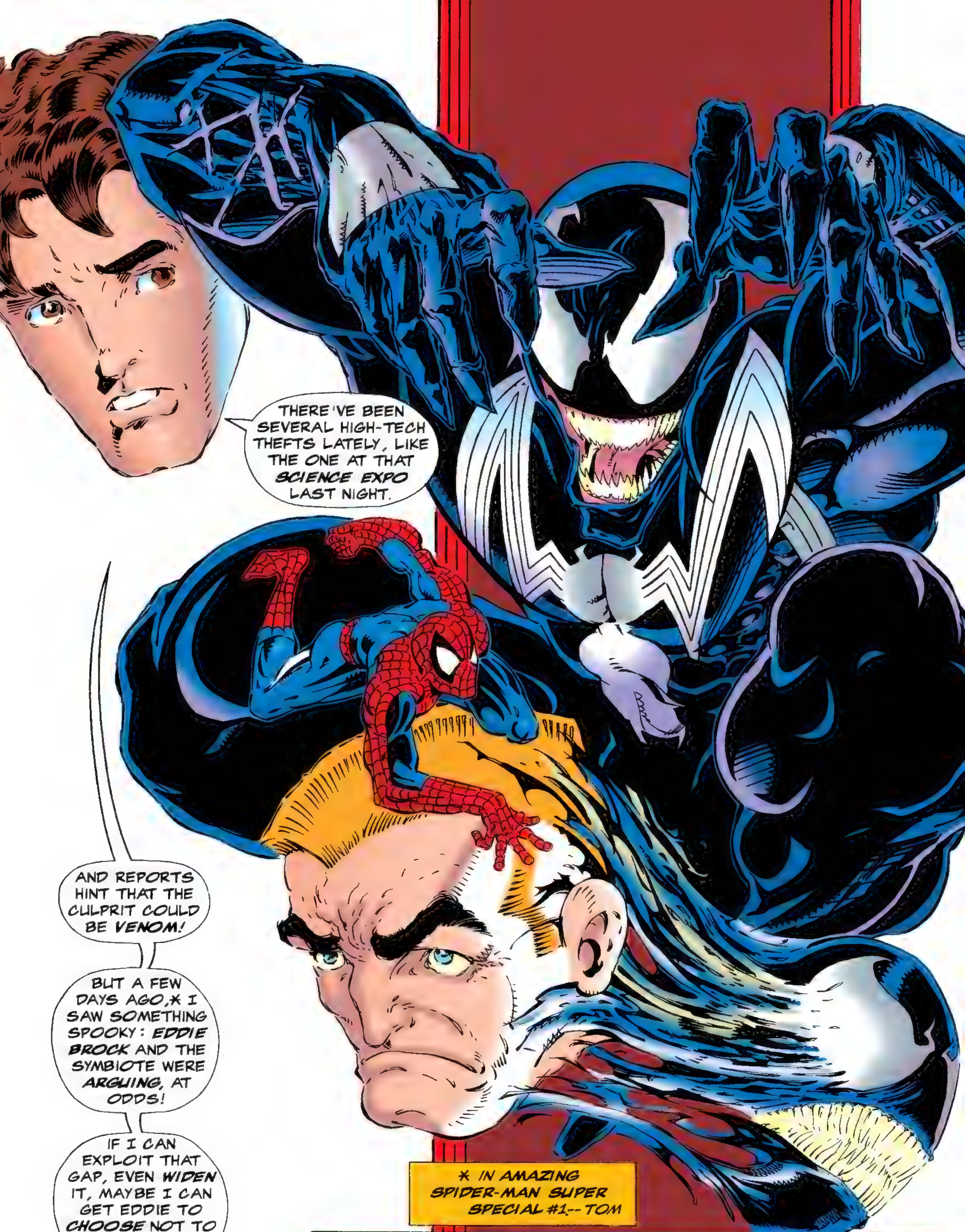
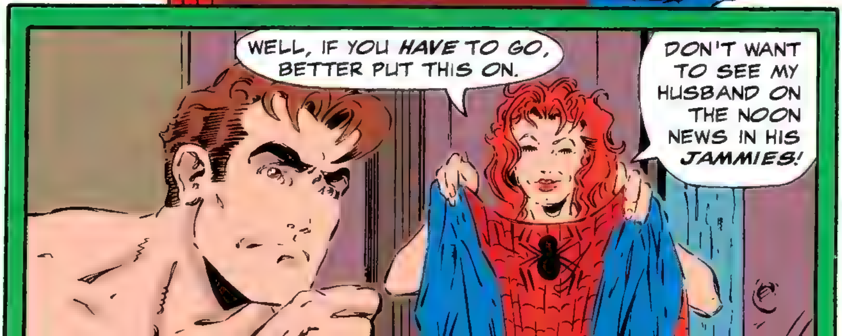
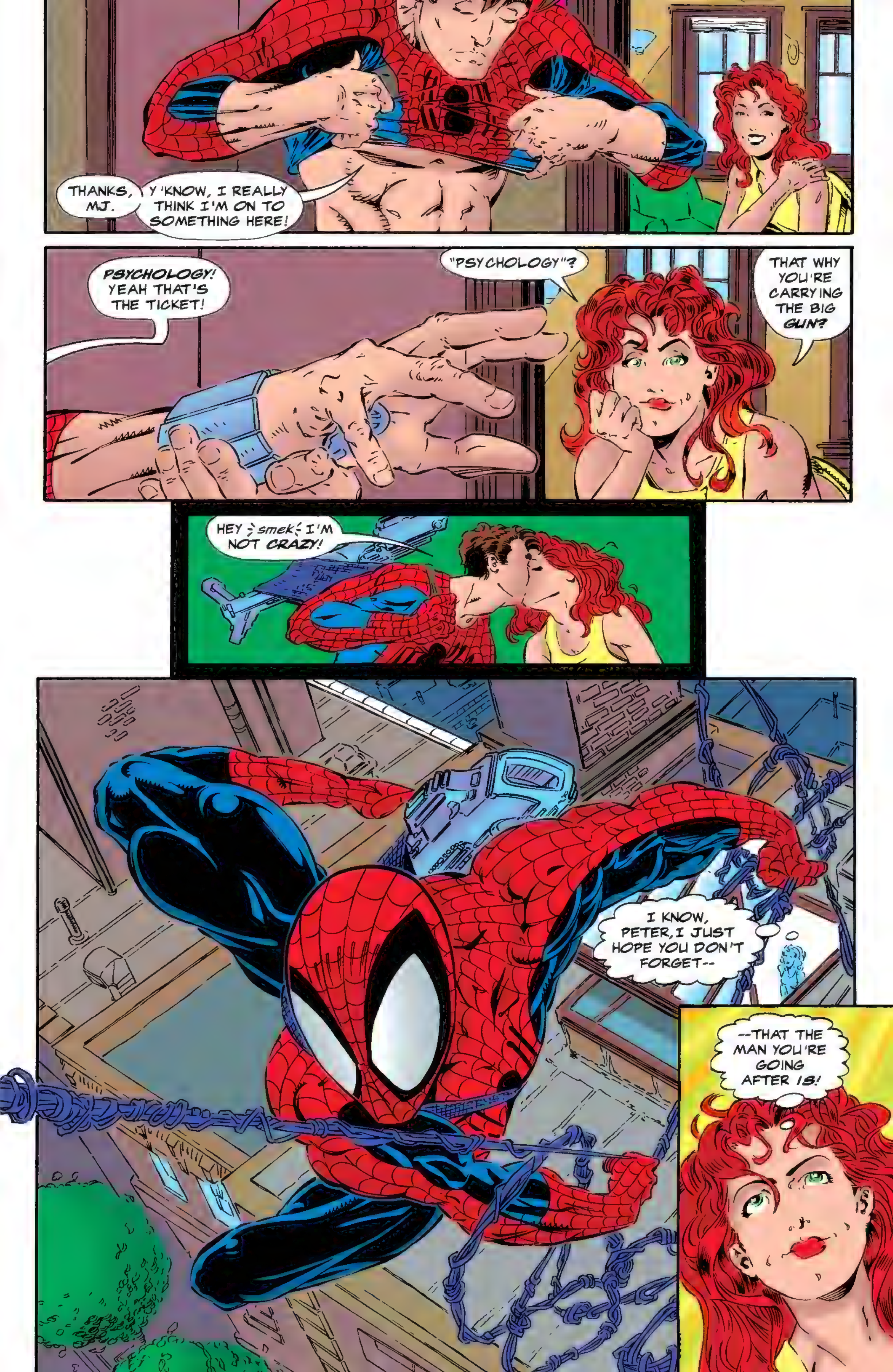
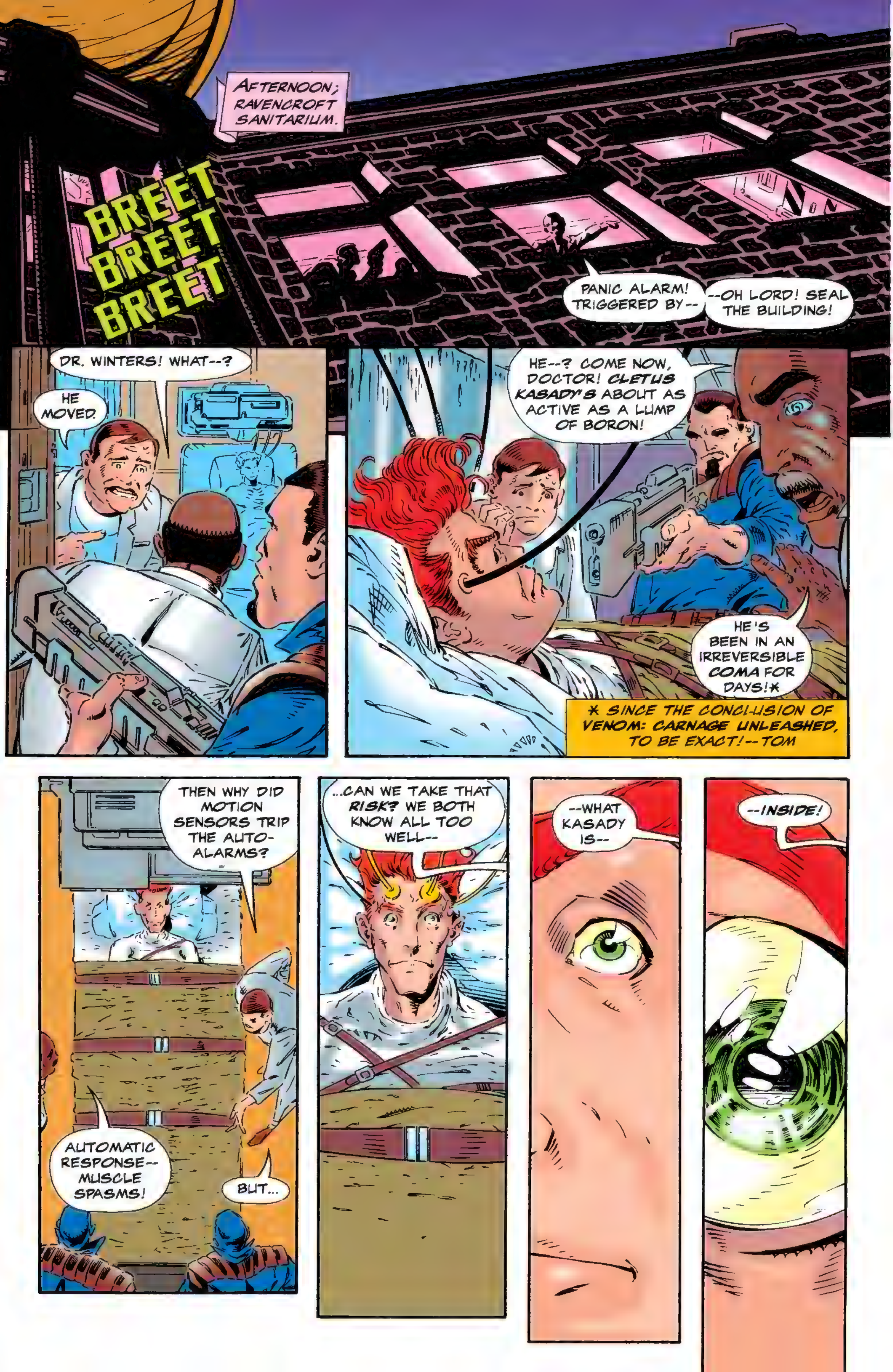
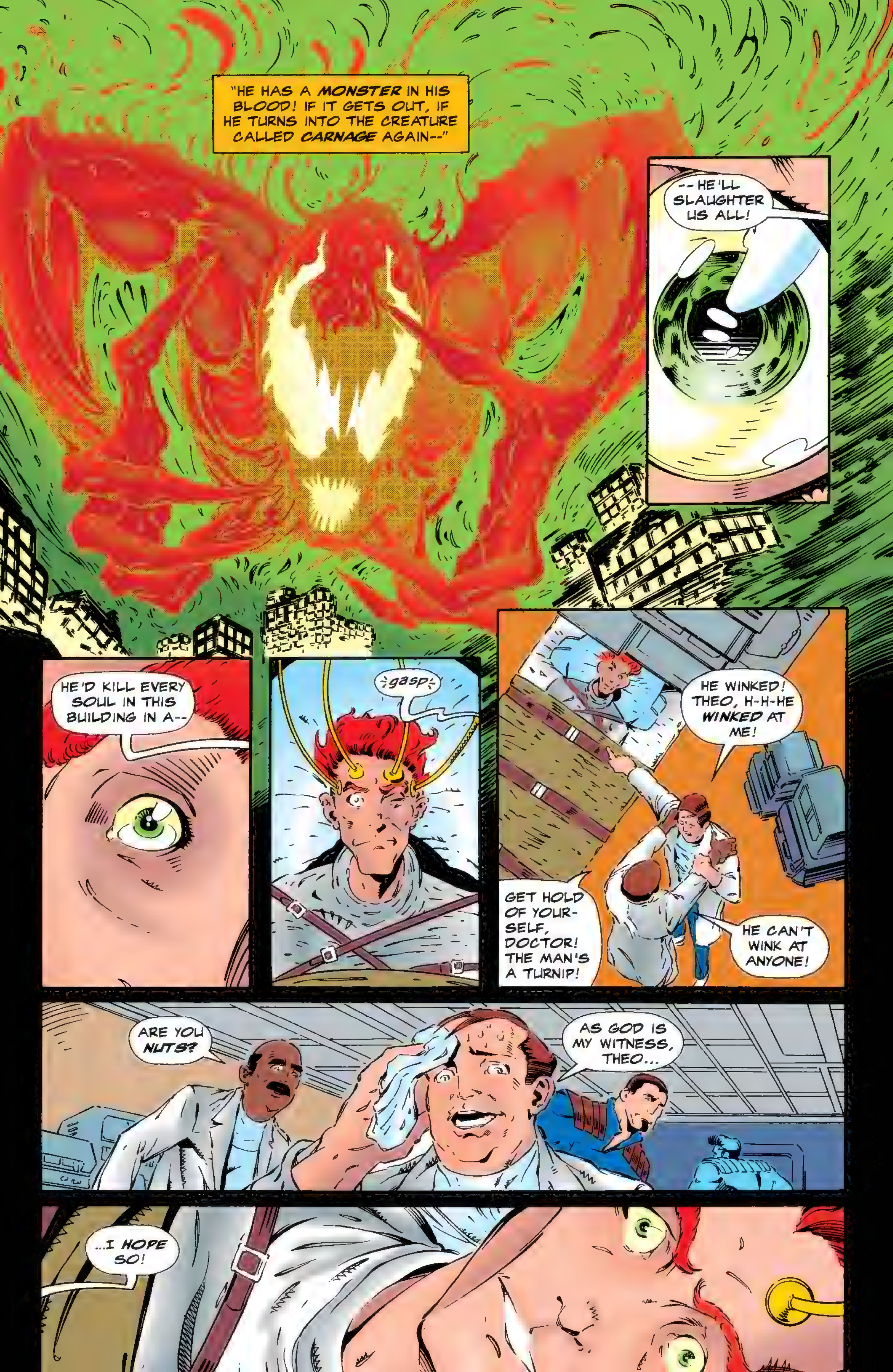

MORNING; MANHATTAN.
THAT'S GOING TO STOP VENOM?!
C'MON, MARY JANE! THIS SONIC GUN REED RICHARDS DEVELOPED HAS BEEN ENOUGH TO STOP VENOM BEFORE!
BUT WHY DO YOU EVEN HAVE TO GO LOOK FOR THAT PSYCHOPATH?
WE'VE BEEN OVER THIS A THOUSAND TIMES! I BROUGHT VENOM'S ALIEN SYMBIOTE TO EARTH!*
WHAT IT DOES, I'M PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR! AND--HEY! COULD YOU STOP POSING? I'M SERIOUS HERE!
SORRY.
* IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #252--TOM

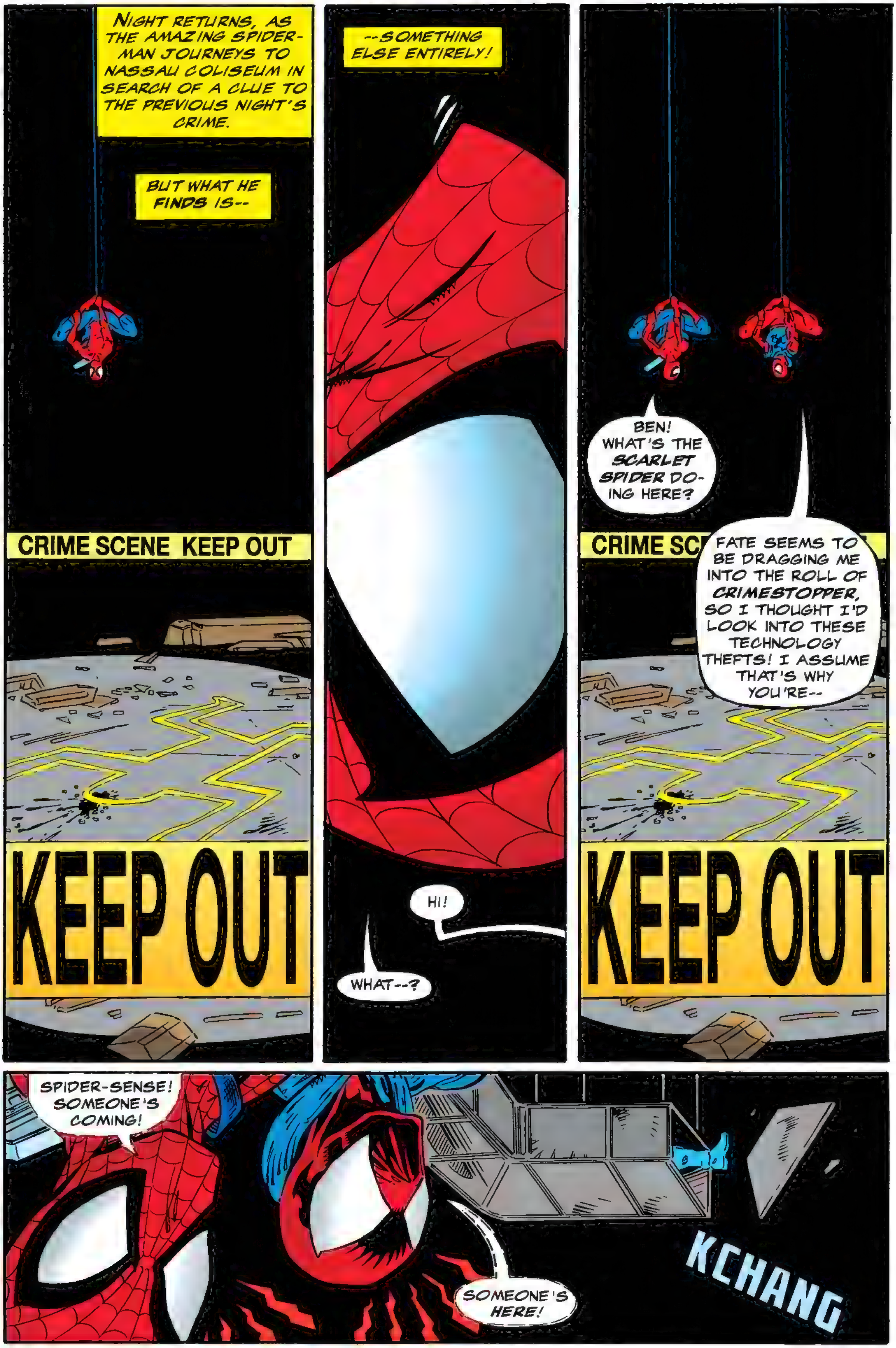

THERE'VE BEEN SEVERAL HIGH-TECH THEFTS LATELY, LIKE THE ONE AT THAT **SCIENCE EXPO** LAST NIGHT.
AND REPORTS HINT THAT THE CULPRIT COULD BE **VENOM!**
BUT A FEW DAYS AGO,* I SAW SOMETHING SPOOKY: **EDDIE BROCK** AND THE SYMBIOTE WERE **ARGUING,** AT ODDS!
IF I CAN EXPLOIT THAT GAP, EVEN **WIDEN** IT, MAYBE I CAN GET EDDIE TO **CHOOSE** NOT TO BE VENOM ANY MORE!
* IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL #1.-- TOM

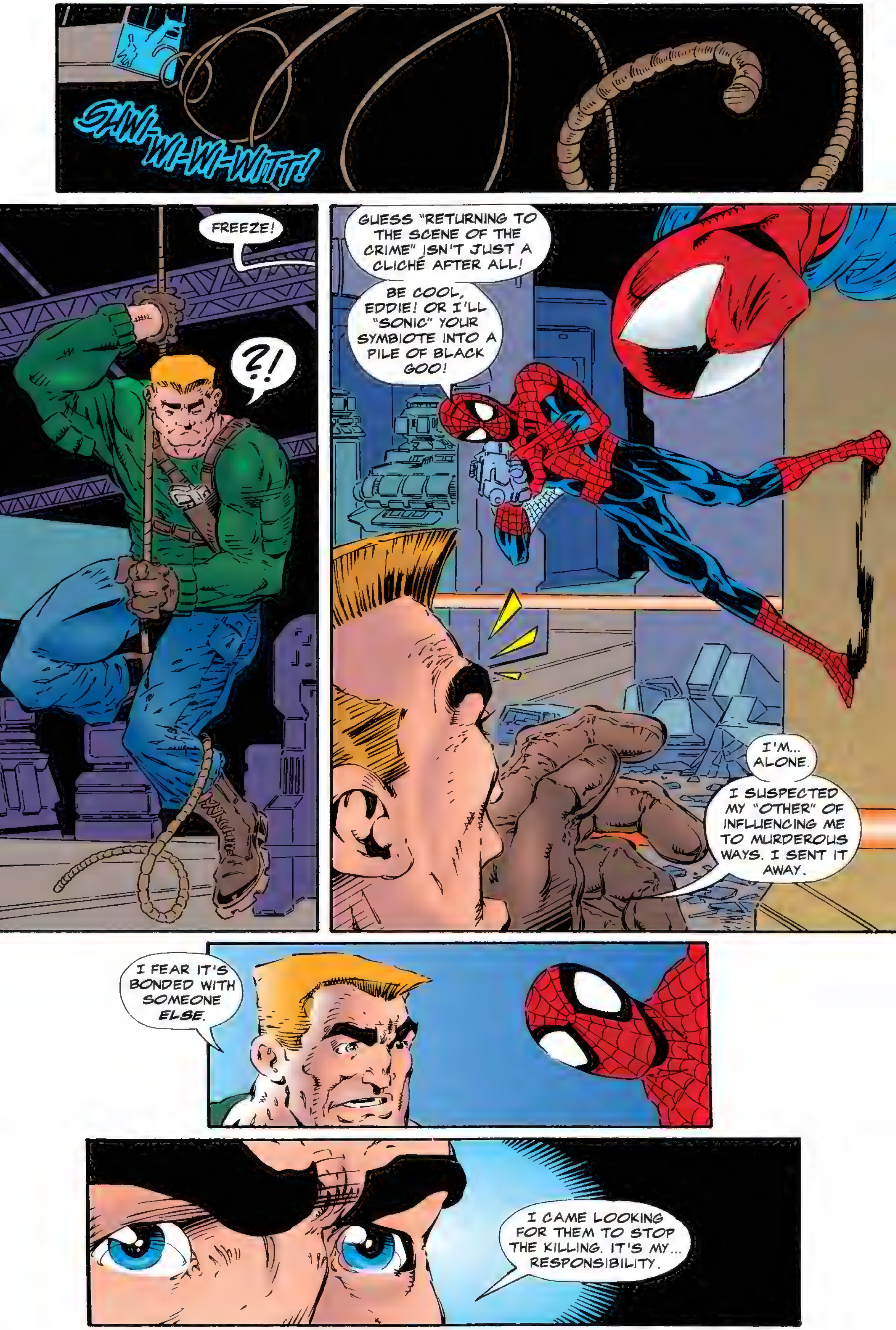

WELL, IF YOU **HAVE** TO GO, BETTER PUT THIS ON.
DON'T WANT TO SEE MY HUSBAND ON THE NOON NEWS IN HIS **JAMMIES!**

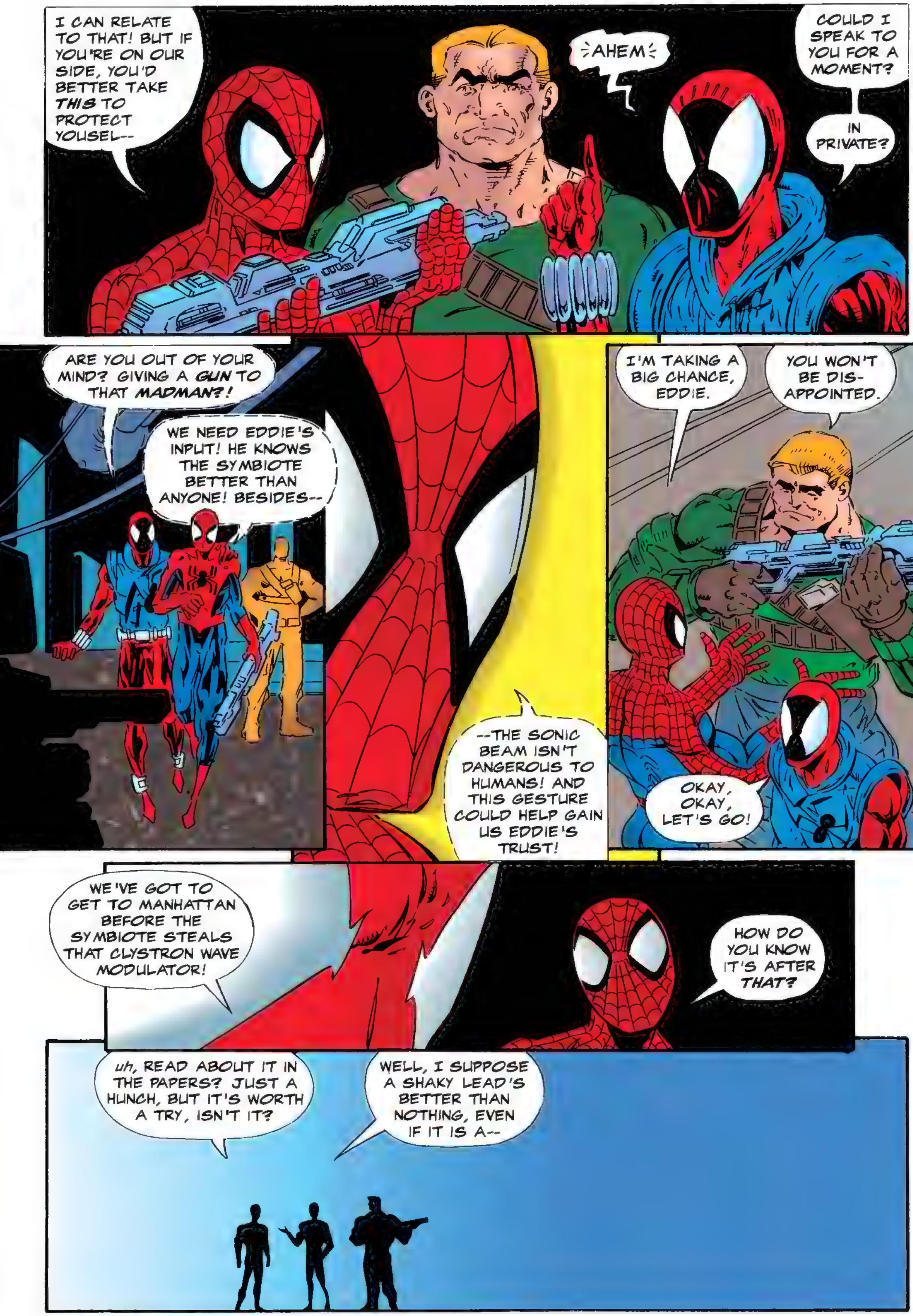

THANKS, MJ.
Y'KNOW, I REALLY THINK I'M ON TO SOMETHING HERE!
PSYCHOLOGY! YEAH THAT'S THE TICKET!
"PSYCHOLOGY"?
THAT WHY YOU'RE CARRYING THE BIG *GUN?*
HEY -*smek*- I'M NOT *CRAZY!*
I KNOW, PETER, I JUST HOPE YOU DON'T FORGET--
--THAT THE MAN YOU'RE GOING AFTER *IS!*

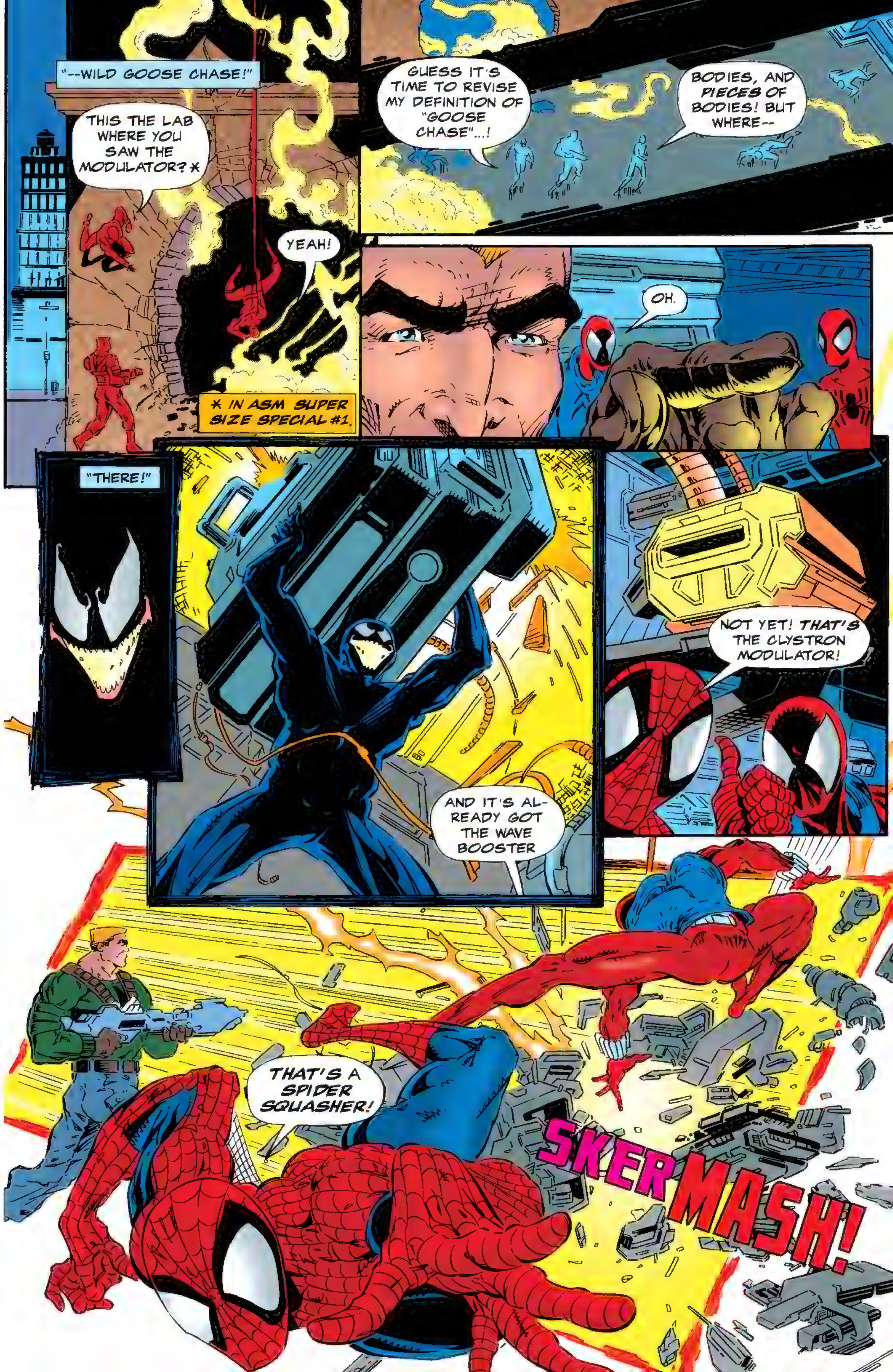

AFTERNOON; RAVENCROFT SANITARIUM.
BREET BREET BREET
PANIC ALARM! TRIGGERED BY--
--OH LORD! SEAL THE BUILDING!
DR. WINTERS! WHAT--?
HE MOVED.
HE--? COME NOW, DOCTOR! CLETUS KASADY'S ABOUT AS ACTIVE AS A LUMP OF BORON!
HE'S BEEN IN AN IRREVERSIBLE COMA FOR DAYS!*
* SINCE THE CONCLUSION OF VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED, TO BE EXACT!--TOM
THEN WHY DID MOTION SENSORS TRIP THE AUTO-ALARMS?
AUTOMATIC RESPONSE--MUSCLE SPASMS!
BUT...
...CAN WE TAKE THAT RISK? WE BOTH KNOW ALL TOO WELL--
--WHAT KASADY IS--
--INSIDE!

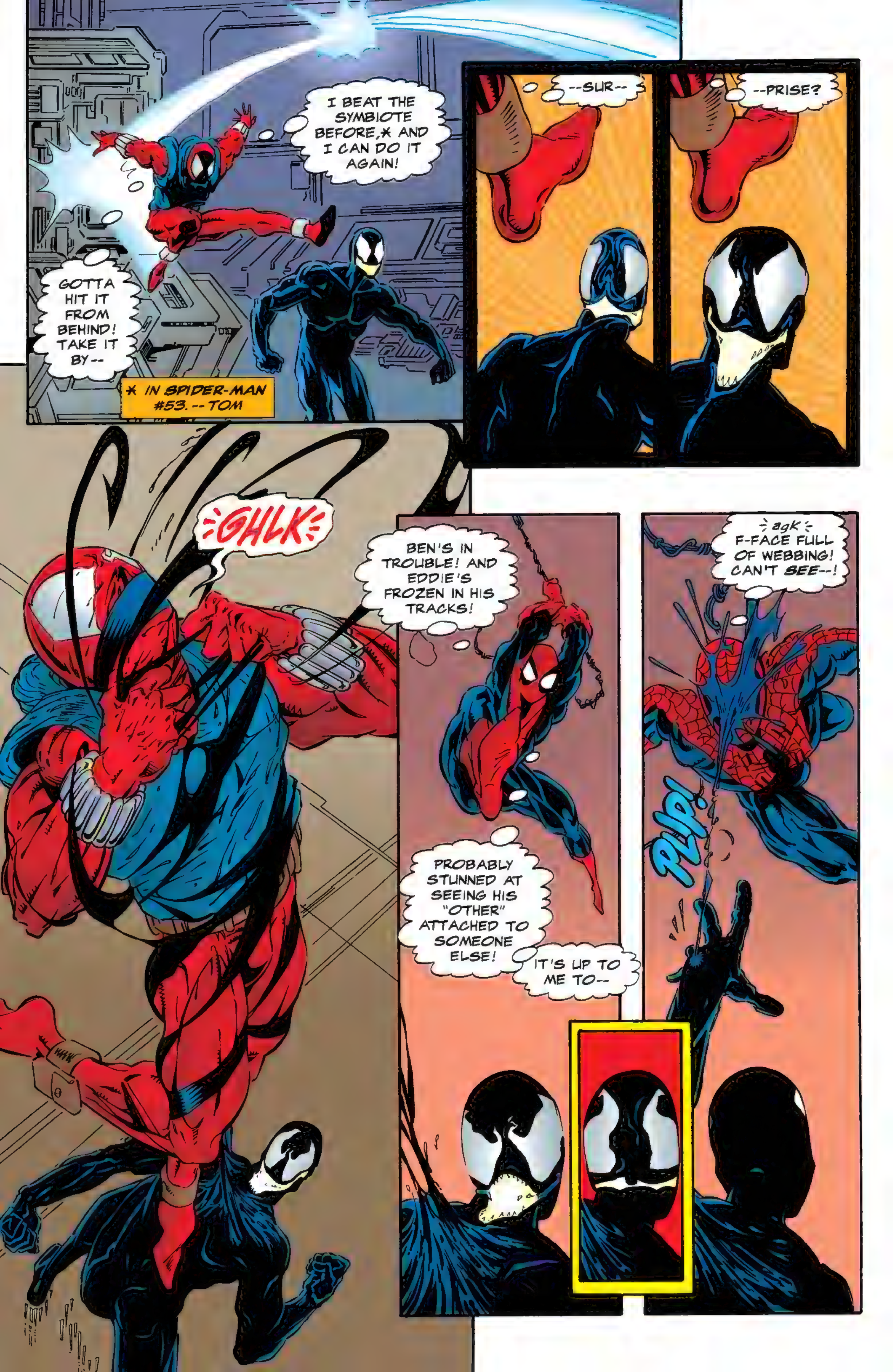

"HE HAS A *MONSTER* IN HIS BLOOD! IF IT GETS OUT, IF HE TURNS INTO THE CREATURE CALLED *CARNAGE* AGAIN--"
--HE'LL SLAUGHTER US ALL!
HE'D KILL EVERY SOUL IN THIS BUILDING IN A--
gasp
HE WINKED! THEO, H-H-HE *WINKED* AT ME!
GET HOLD OF YOURSELF, DOCTOR! THE MAN'S A TURNIP!
HE CAN'T WINK AT ANYONE!
ARE YOU *NUTS?*
AS GOD IS MY WITNESS, THEO...
...I *HOPE* SO!

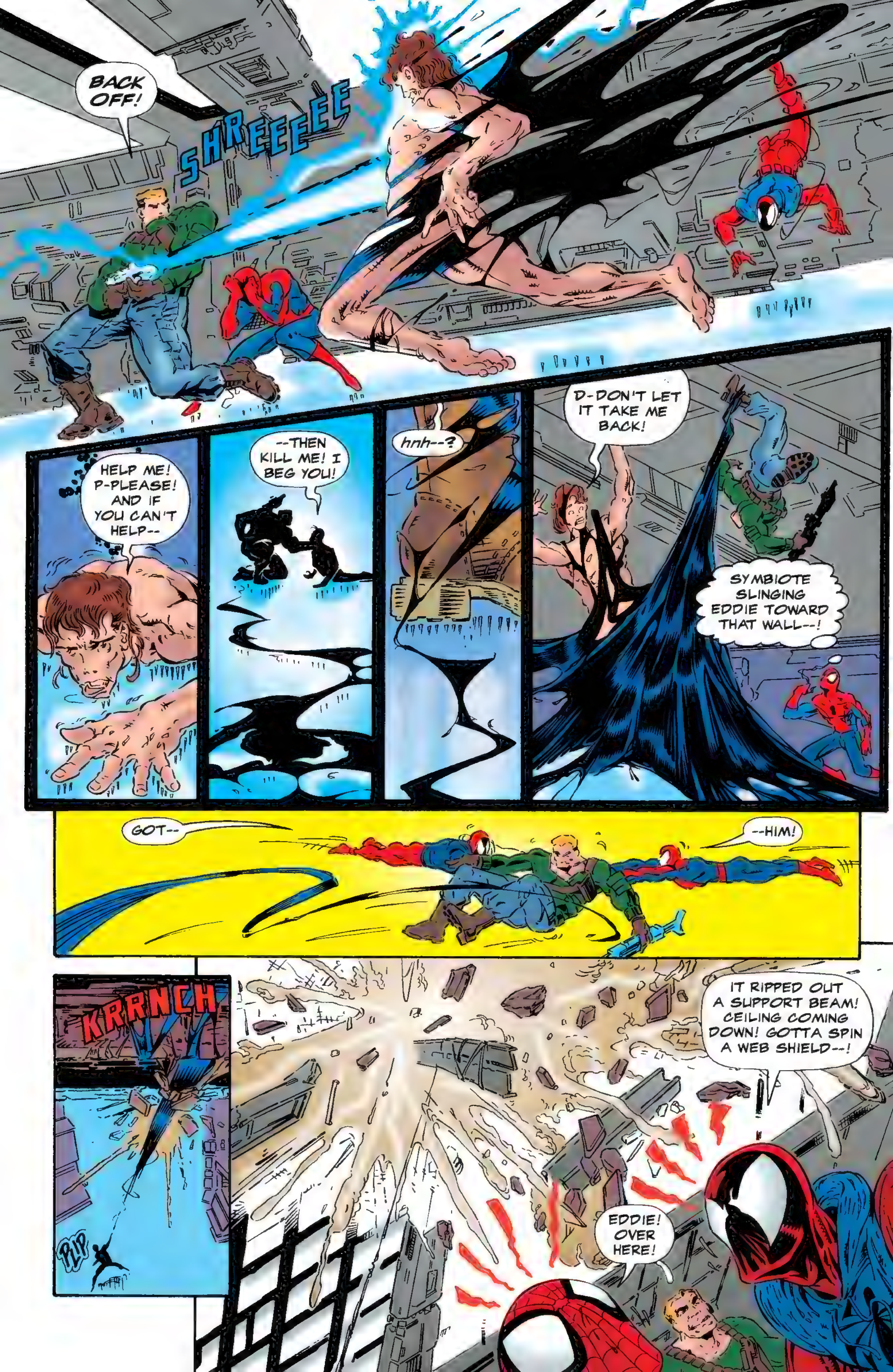

NIGHT RETURNS, AS THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN JOURNEYS TO NASSAU COLISEUM IN SEARCH OF A CLUE TO THE PREVIOUS NIGHT'S CRIME.
BUT WHAT HE FINDS IS--
CRIME SCENE KEEP OUT
KEEP OUT
--SOMETHING ELSE ENTIRELY!
HI!
WHAT--?
BEN! WHAT'S THE *SCARLET SPIDER* DOING HERE?
CRIME SC
FATE SEEMS TO BE DRAGGING ME INTO THE ROLL OF *CRIMESTOPPER*, SO I THOUGHT I'D LOOK INTO THESE TECHNOLOGY THEFTS! I ASSUME THAT'S WHY YOU'RE--
KEEP OUT
SPIDER-SENSE! SOMEONE'S COMING!
SOMEONE'S HERE!
KCHANG

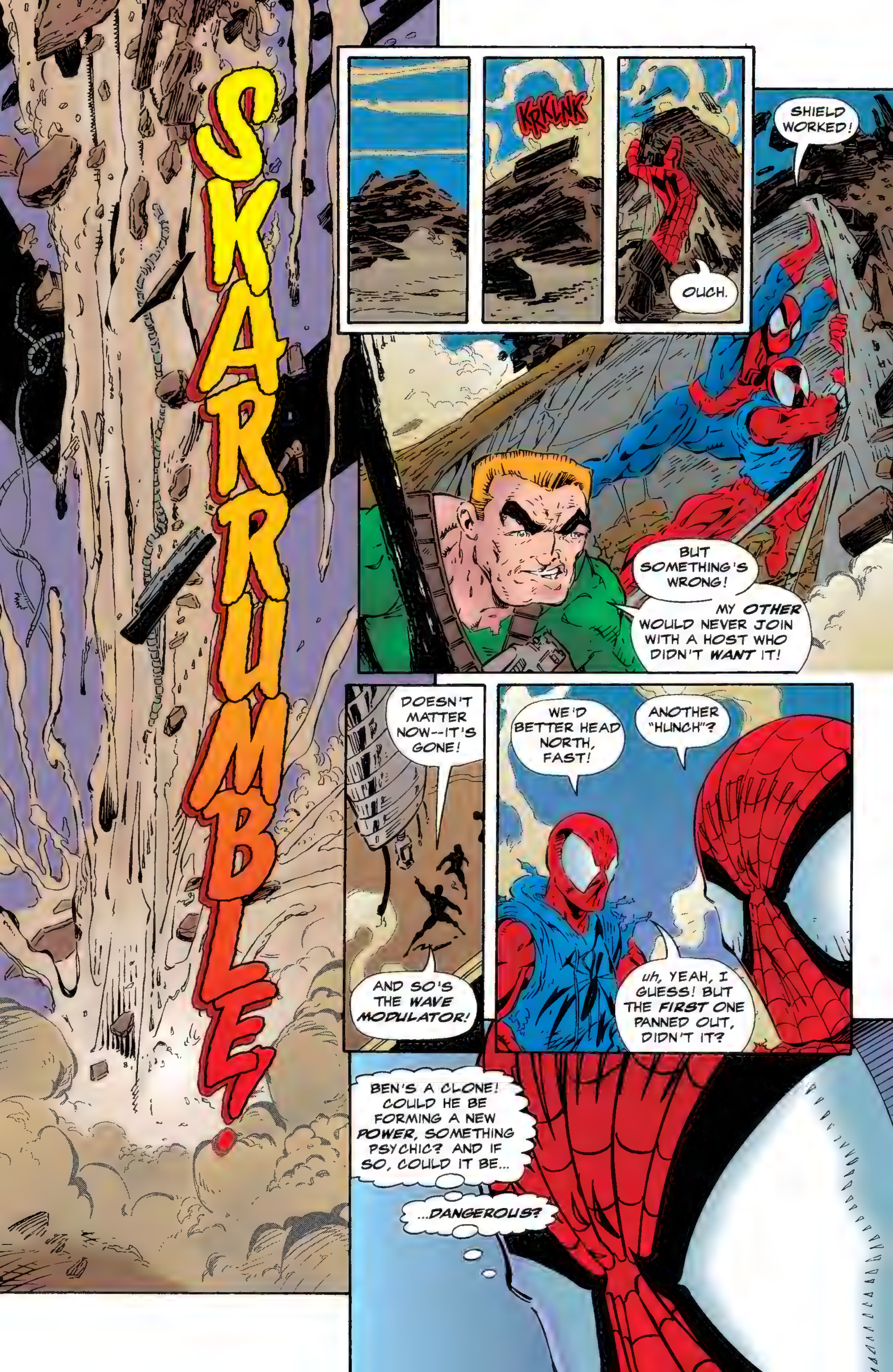

SHW-WI-WI-WITT!
FREEZE!
?!
GUESS "RETURNING TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME" ISN'T JUST A CLICHÉ AFTER ALL!
BE COOL, EDDIE! OR I'LL "SONIC" YOUR SYMBIOTE INTO A PILE OF BLACK GOO!
I'M... ALONE.
I SUSPECTED MY "OTHER" OF INFLUENCING ME TO MURDEROUS WAYS. I SENT IT AWAY.
I FEAR IT'S BONDED WITH SOMEONE ELSE.
I CAME LOOKING FOR THEM TO STOP THE KILLING. IT'S MY... RESPONSIBILITY.

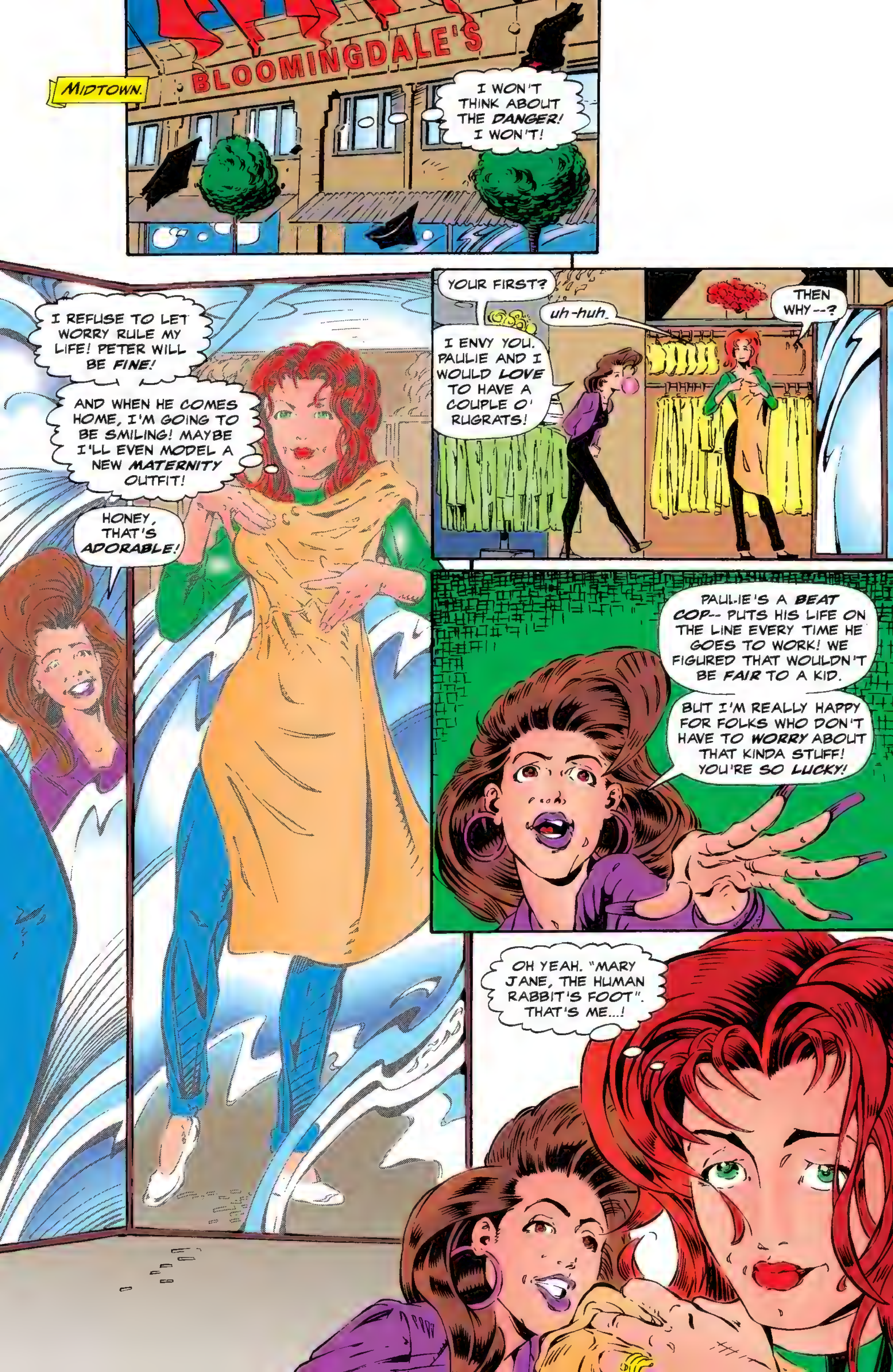

I CAN RELATE TO THAT! BUT IF YOU'RE ON OUR SIDE, YOU'D BETTER TAKE *THIS* TO PROTECT YOUSEL--
AHEM
COULD I SPEAK TO YOU FOR A MOMENT?
IN PRIVATE?
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND? GIVING A *GUN* TO THAT *MADMAN?!*
WE NEED EDDIE'S INPUT! HE KNOWS THE SYMBIOTE BETTER THAN ANYONE! BESIDES--
--THE SONIC BEAM ISN'T DANGEROUS TO HUMANS! AND THIS GESTURE COULD HELP GAIN US EDDIE'S TRUST!
I'M TAKING A BIG CHANCE, EDDIE.
YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED.
OKAY, OKAY, LET'S GO!
WE'VE GOT TO GET TO MANHATTAN BEFORE THE SYMBIOTE STEALS THAT CLYSTRON WAVE MODULATOR!
HOW DO YOU KNOW IT'S AFTER *THAT?*
uh, READ ABOUT IT IN THE PAPERS? JUST A HUNCH, BUT IT'S WORTH A TRY, ISN'T IT?
WELL, I SUPPOSE A SHAKY LEAD'S BETTER THAN NOTHING, EVEN IF IT IS A--

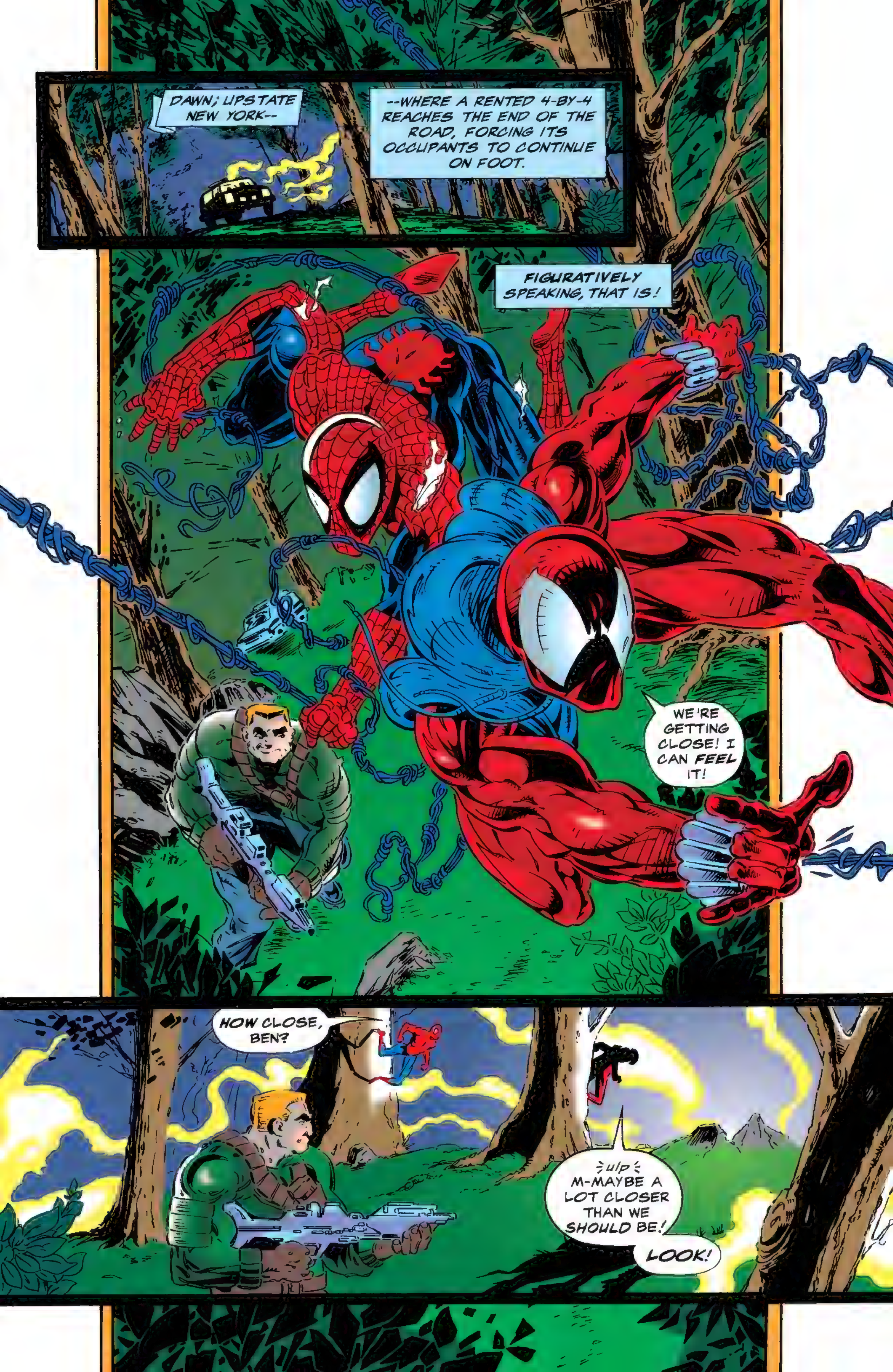

"--WILD GOOSE CHASE!"
THIS THE LAB WHERE YOU SAW THE MODULATOR?*
YEAH!
* IN ASM SUPER SIZE SPECIAL #1.
GUESS IT'S TIME TO REVISE MY DEFINITION OF "GOOSE CHASE"...!
BODIES, AND PIECES OF BODIES! BUT WHERE--
OH.
"THERE!"
AND IT'S ALREADY GOT THE WAVE BOOSTER
NOT YET! THAT'S THE CLYSTRON MODULATOR!
THAT'S A SPIDER SQUASHER!
SKERMASH!

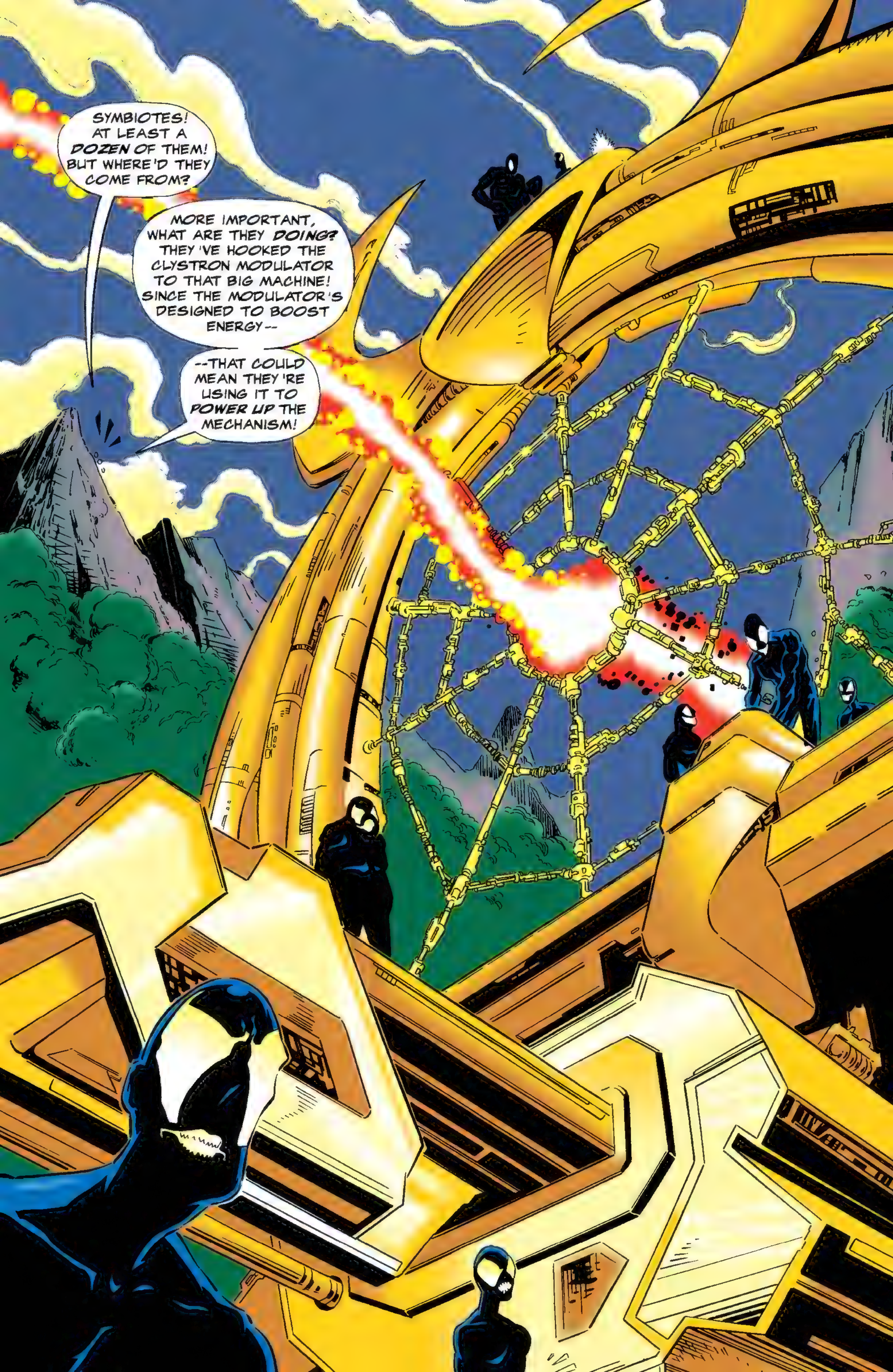

I BEAT THE SYMBIOTE BEFORE,* AND I CAN DO IT AGAIN!
GOTTA HIT IT FROM BEHIND! TAKE IT BY--
* IN SPIDER-MAN #53. --TOM
--SUR--
--PRISE?
GHLK
BEN'S IN TROUBLE! AND EDDIE'S FROZEN IN HIS TRACKS!
PROBABLY STUNNED AT SEEING HIS "OTHER" ATTACHED TO SOMEONE ELSE!
IT'S UP TO ME TO--
agk
F-FACE FULL OF WEBBING! CAN'T SEE--!
PLIP!

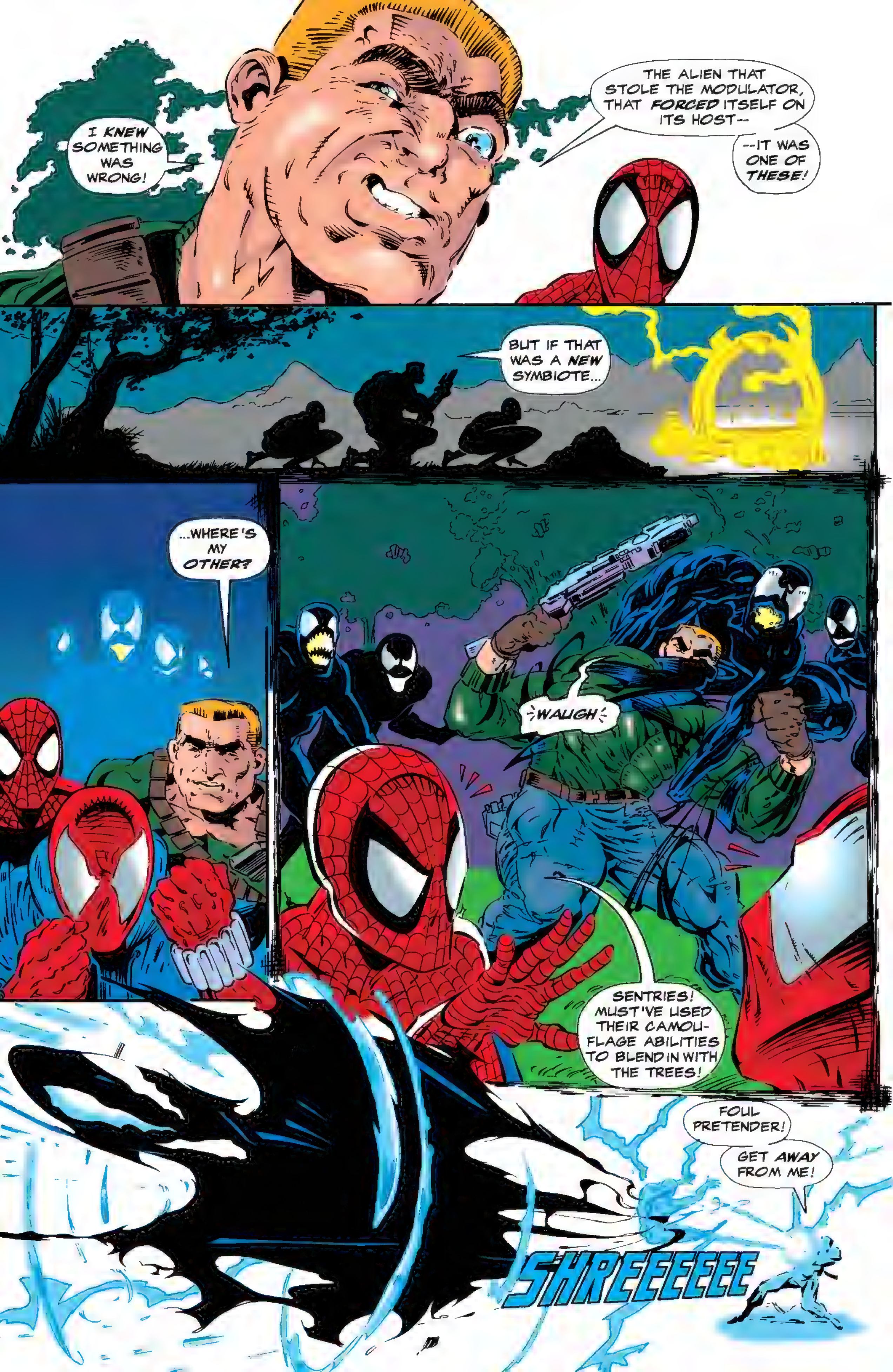

BACK OFF!
SHREEEEE
HELP ME! P-PLEASE! AND IF YOU CAN'T HELP--
--THEN KILL ME! I BEG YOU!
hnh--?
D-DON'T LET IT TAKE ME BACK!
SYMBIOTE SLINGING EDDIE TOWARD THAT WALL--!
GOT--
--HIM!
KRRNCH
PLIP
IT RIPPED OUT A SUPPORT BEAM! CEILING COMING DOWN! GOTTA SPIN A WEB SHIELD--!
EDDIE! OVER HERE!

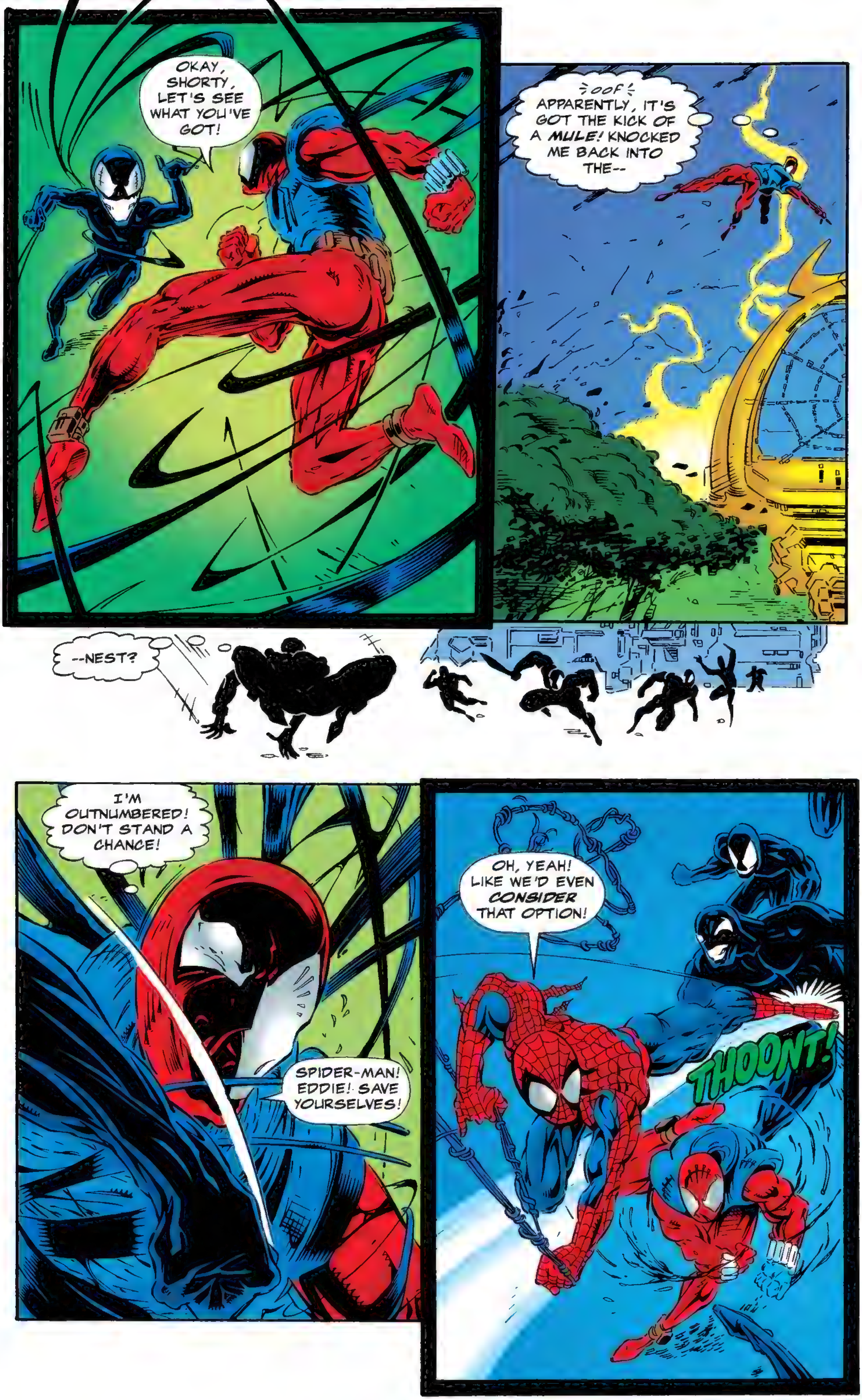

SKARUMBLE!
KRKLNK
OUCH.
SHIELD WORKED!
BUT SOMETHING'S WRONG!
MY *OTHER* WOULD NEVER JOIN WITH A HOST WHO DIDN'T *WANT* IT!
DOESN'T MATTER NOW--IT'S GONE!
AND SO'S THE *WAVE MODULATOR!*
WE'D BETTER HEAD NORTH, FAST!
ANOTHER "HUNCH"?
uh, YEAH, I GUESS! BUT THE *FIRST* ONE PANNED OUT, DIDN'T IT?
BEN'S A CLONE! COULD HE BE FORMING A NEW *POWER*, SOMETHING PSYCHIC? AND IF SO, COULD IT BE...
...DANGEROUS?

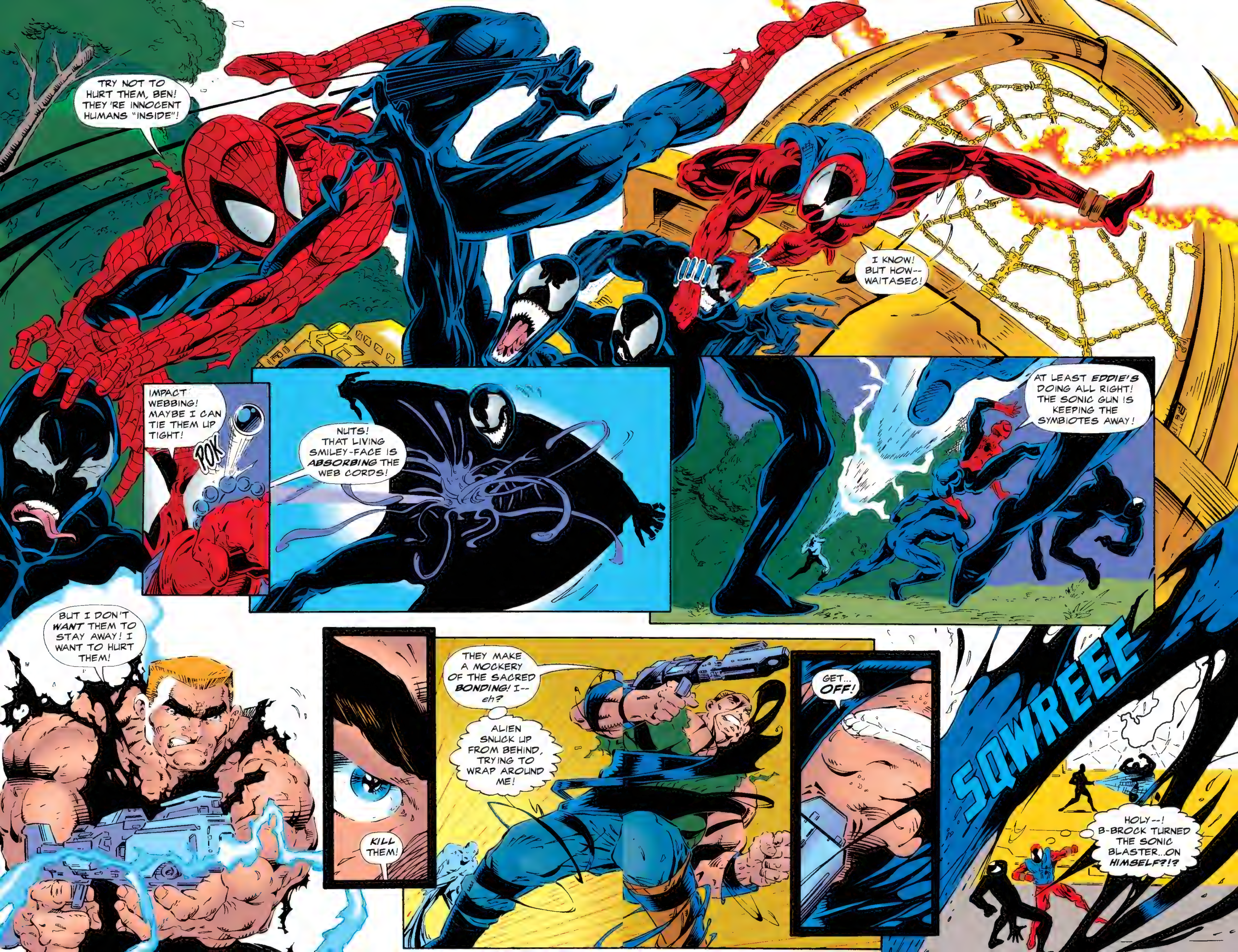

BLOOMINGDALE'S
MIDTOWN.
I WON'T THINK ABOUT THE DANGER! I WON'T!
I REFUSE TO LET WORRY RULE MY LIFE! PETER WILL BE FINE!
AND WHEN HE COMES HOME, I'M GOING TO BE SMILING! MAYBE I'LL EVEN MODEL A NEW MATERNITY OUTFIT!
HONEY, THAT'S ADORABLE!
YOUR FIRST?
uh-huh.
I ENVY YOU. PAULIE AND I WOULD LOVE TO HAVE A COUPLE O' RUGRATS!
THEN WHY--?
PAULIE'S A BEAT COP-- PUTS HIS LIFE ON THE LINE EVERY TIME HE GOES TO WORK! WE FIGURED THAT WOULDN'T BE FAIR TO A KID.
BUT I'M REALLY HAPPY FOR FOLKS WHO DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT KINDA STUFF! YOU'RE SO LUCKY!
OH YEAH. "MARY JANE, THE HUMAN RABBIT'S FOOT". THAT'S ME...!

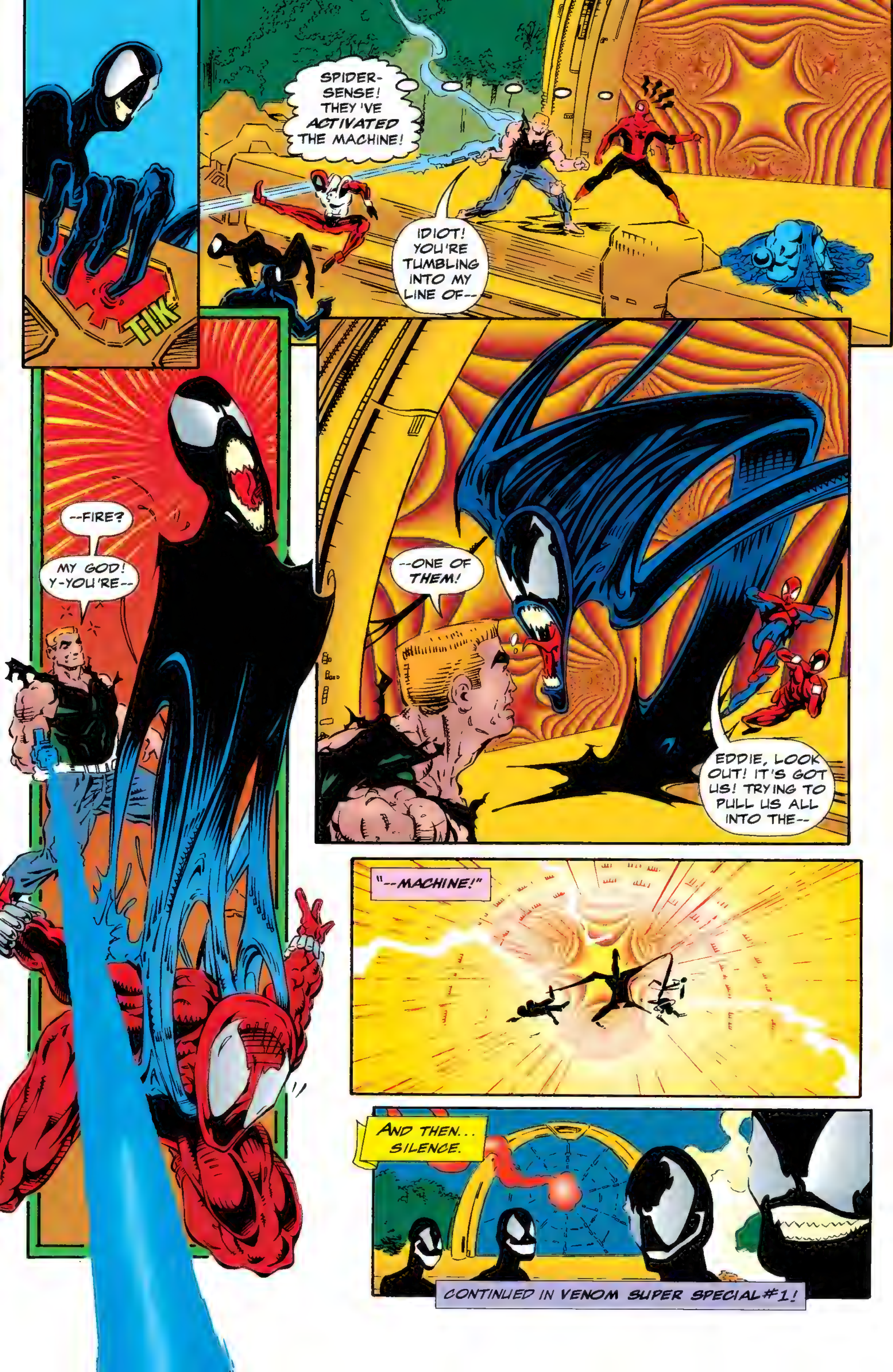

DAWN; UPSTATE NEW YORK--
--WHERE A RENTED 4-BY-4 REACHES THE END OF THE ROAD, FORCING ITS OCCUPANTS TO CONTINUE ON FOOT.
FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING, THAT IS!
WE'RE GETTING CLOSE! I CAN FEEL IT!
HOW CLOSE, BEN?
ulp M-MAYBE A LOT CLOSER THAN WE SHOULD BE!
LOOK!

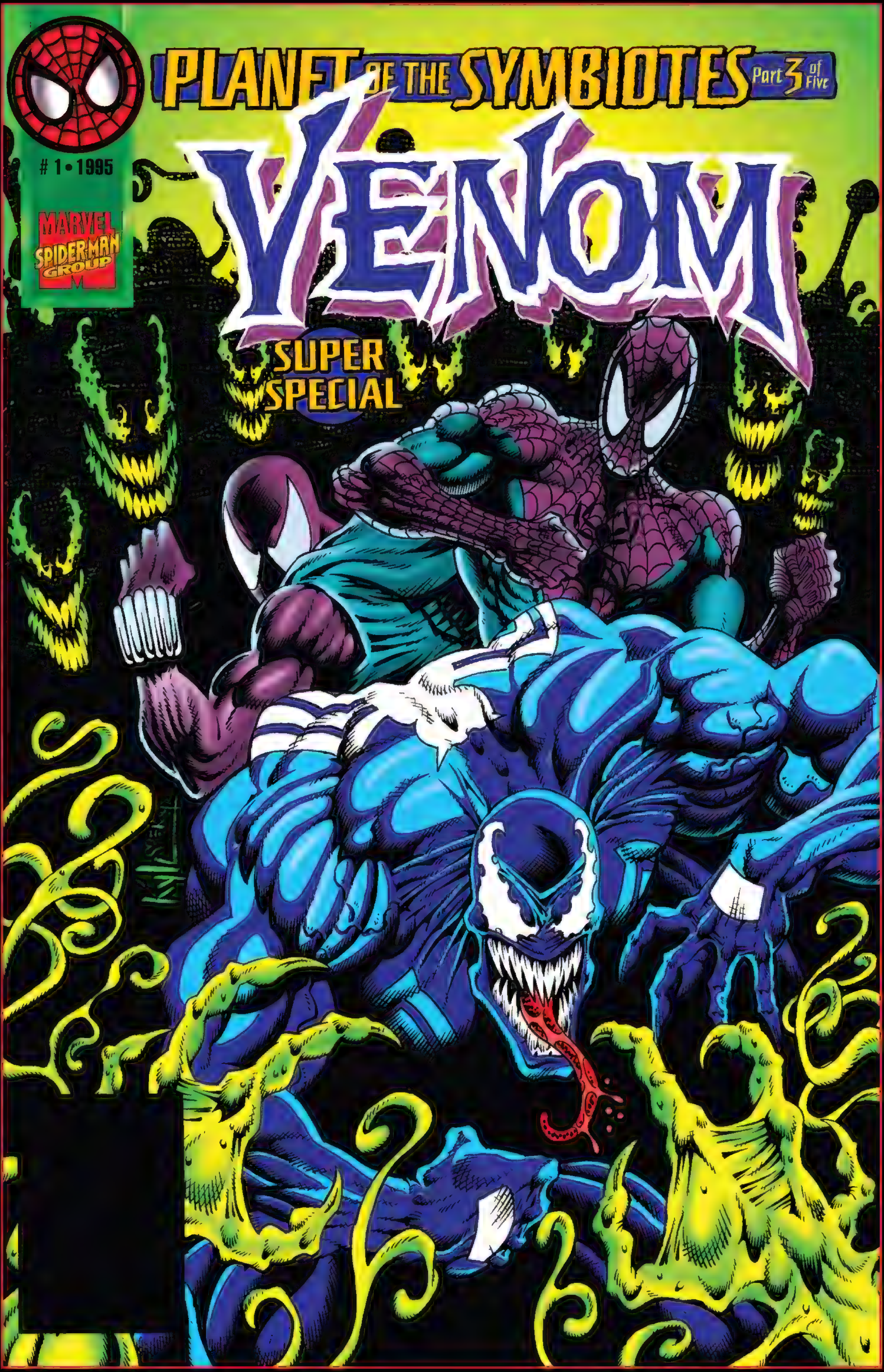

SYMBIOTES! AT LEAST A *DOZEN* OF THEM! BUT WHERE'D THEY COME FROM?
MORE IMPORTANT, WHAT ARE THEY *DOING?* THEY'VE HOOKED THE CLYSTRON MODULATOR TO THAT BIG MACHINE! SINCE THE MODULATOR'S DESIGNED TO BOOST ENERGY--
--THAT COULD MEAN THEY'RE USING IT TO *POWER UP* THE MECHANISM!

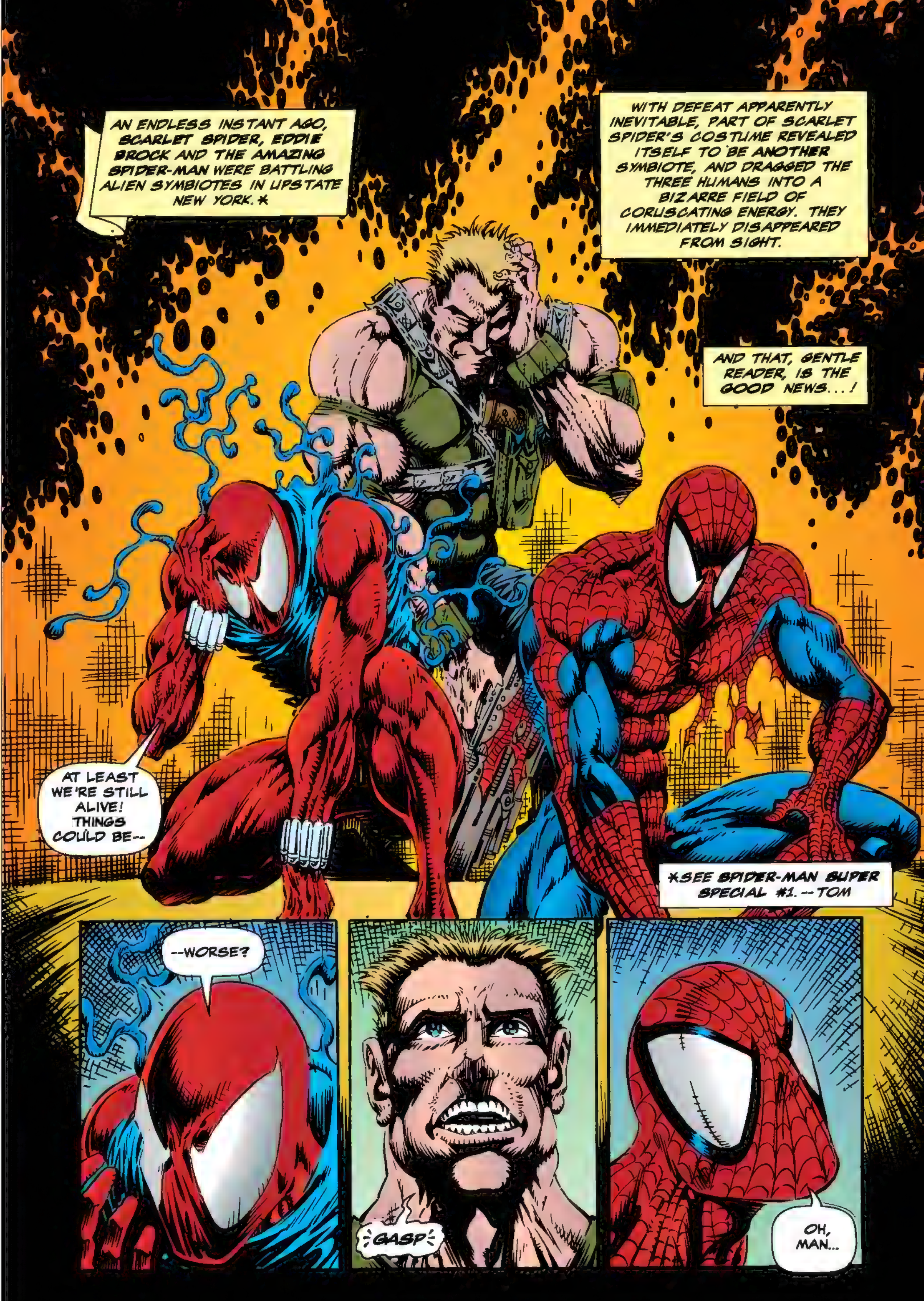

I *KNEW* SOMETHING WAS WRONG!
THE ALIEN THAT STOLE THE MODULATOR, THAT *FORCED* ITSELF ON ITS HOST--
--IT WAS ONE OF *THESE!*
BUT IF THAT WAS A *NEW* SYMBIOTE...
...WHERE'S MY *OTHER?*
WAUGH
SENTRIES! MUST'VE USED THEIR CAMOUFLAGE ABILITIES TO BLEND IN WITH THE TREES!
FOUL PRETENDER!
GET *AWAY* FROM ME!
SHREEEEEEE

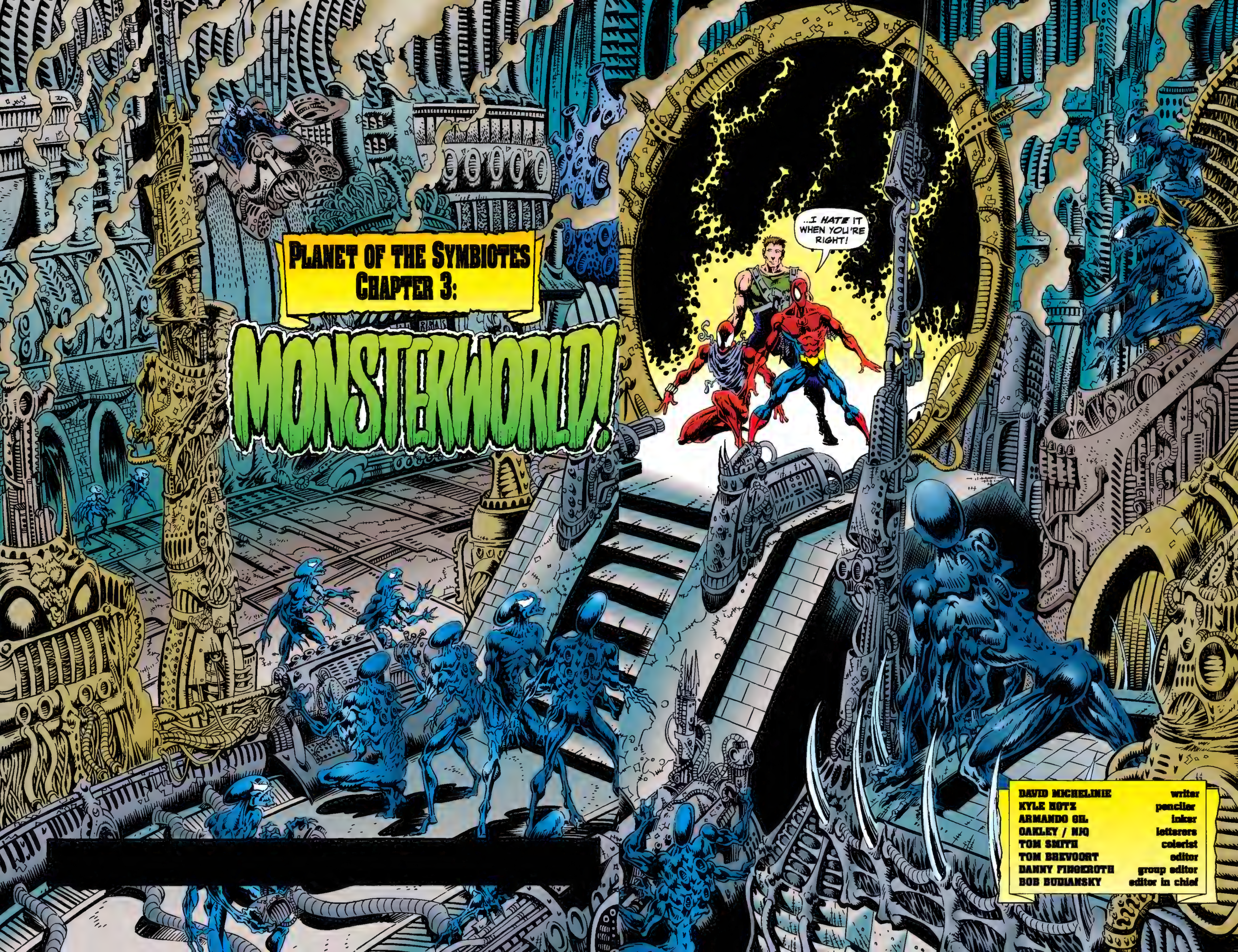

OKAY, SHORTY, LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'VE GOT!
oof
APPARENTLY, IT'S GOT THE KICK OF A *MULE!* KNOCKED ME BACK INTO THE--
--NEST?
I'M OUTNUMBERED! DON'T STAND A CHANCE!
SPIDER-MAN! EDDIE! SAVE YOURSELVES!
OH, YEAH! LIKE WE'D EVEN *CONSIDER* THAT OPTION!
THOONT!


TRY NOT TO HURT THEM, BEN! THEY'RE INNOCENT HUMANS "INSIDE"!
I KNOW! BUT HOW-- WAITASEC!
IMPACT WEBBING! MAYBE I CAN TIE THEM UP TIGHT!
POK
NUTS! THAT LIVING SMILEY-FACE IS *ABSORBING* THE WEB CORDS!
AT LEAST *EDDIE'S* DOING ALL RIGHT! THE SONIC GUN IS KEEPING THE SYMBIOTES AWAY!
BUT I DON'T *WANT* THEM TO STAY AWAY! I WANT TO HURT THEM!
KILL THEM!
THEY MAKE A MOCKERY OF THE SACRED *BONDING*! I-- *eh?*
ALIEN SNUCK UP FROM BEHIND, TRYING TO WRAP AROUND ME!
GET... *OFF!*
SQWREEE
HOLY--! B-BROCK TURNED THE SONIC BLASTER...ON *HIMSELF?!?*


TIK
SPIDER-SENSE! THEY'VE ACTIVATED THE MACHINE!
IDIOT! YOU'RE TUMBLING INTO MY LINE OF--
--FIRE?
MY GOD! Y-YOU'RE--
--ONE OF THEM!
EDDIE, LOOK OUT! IT'S GOT US! TRYING TO PULL US ALL INTO THE--
"--MACHINE!"
AND THEN... SILENCE.
CONTINUED IN VENOM SUPER SPECIAL #1!


PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES Part 3 of Five
# 1 • 1995
MARVEL SPIDER-MAN GROUP
VENOM
SUPER SPECIAL


AN ENDLESS INSTANT AGO, SCARLET SPIDER, EDDIE BROCK AND THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN WERE BATTLING ALIEN SYMBIOTES IN UPSTATE NEW YORK.*
WITH DEFEAT APPARENTLY INEVITABLE, PART OF SCARLET SPIDER'S COSTUME REVEALED ITSELF TO BE ANOTHER SYMBIOTE, AND DRAGGED THE THREE HUMANS INTO A BIZARRE FIELD OF CORUSCATING ENERGY. THEY IMMEDIATELY DISAPPEARED FROM SIGHT.
AND THAT, GENTLE READER, IS THE GOOD NEWS...!
AT LEAST WE'RE STILL ALIVE! THINGS COULD BE--
*SEE SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL #1. --TOM
--WORSE?
GASP
OH, MAN...


PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES
CHAPTER 3:
MONSTERWORLD!
...I *HATE* IT WHEN YOU'RE RIGHT!

[redacted]

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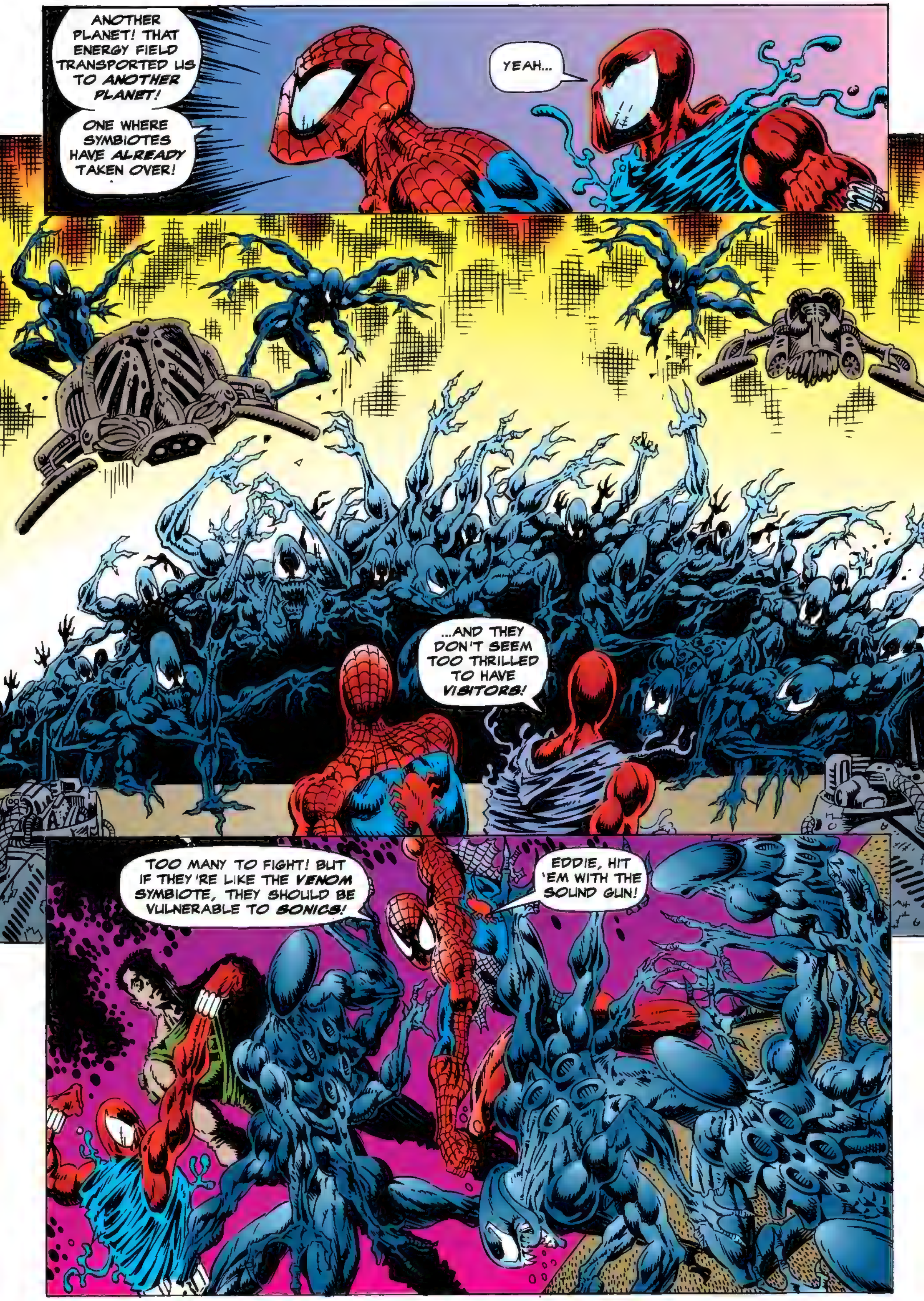
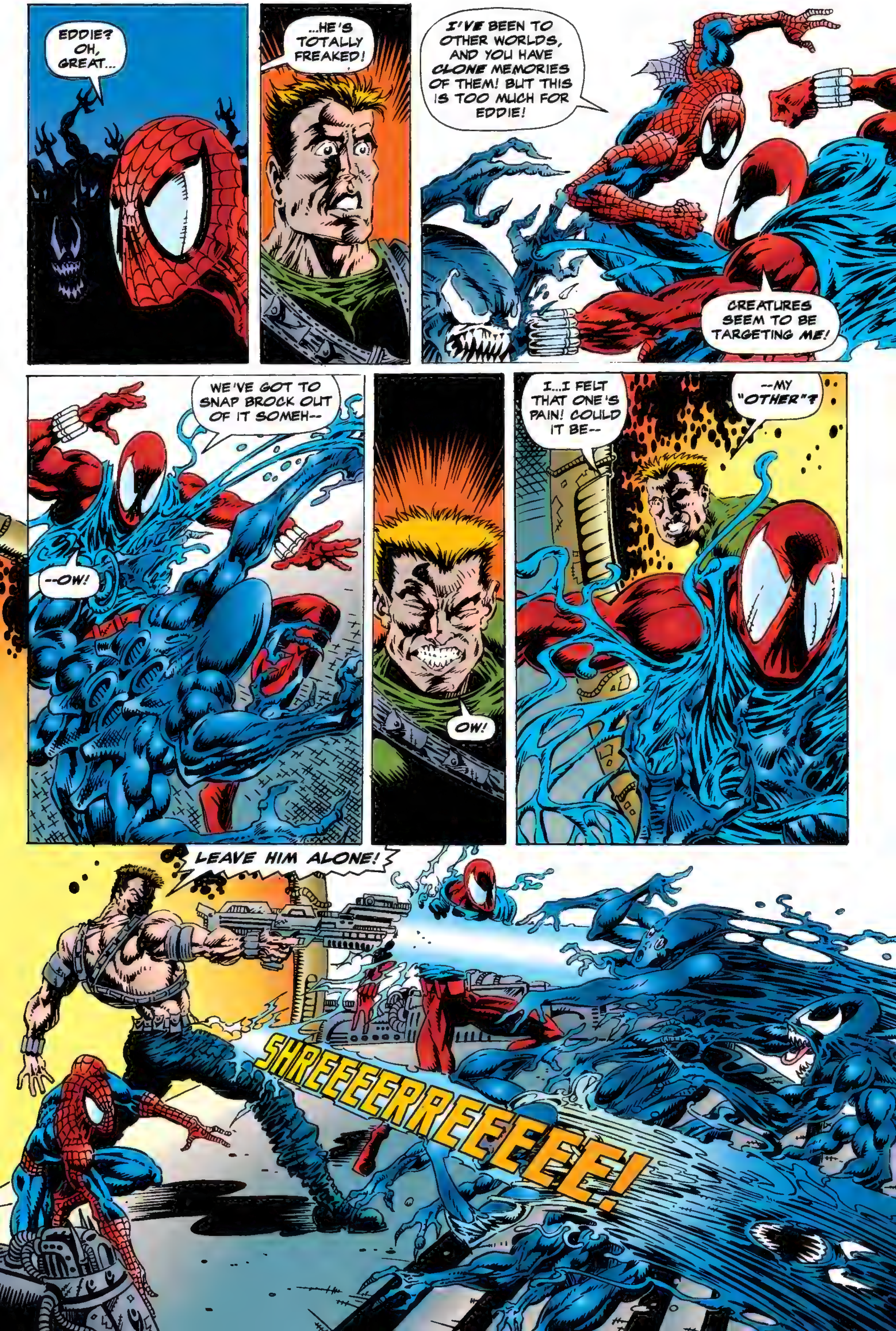
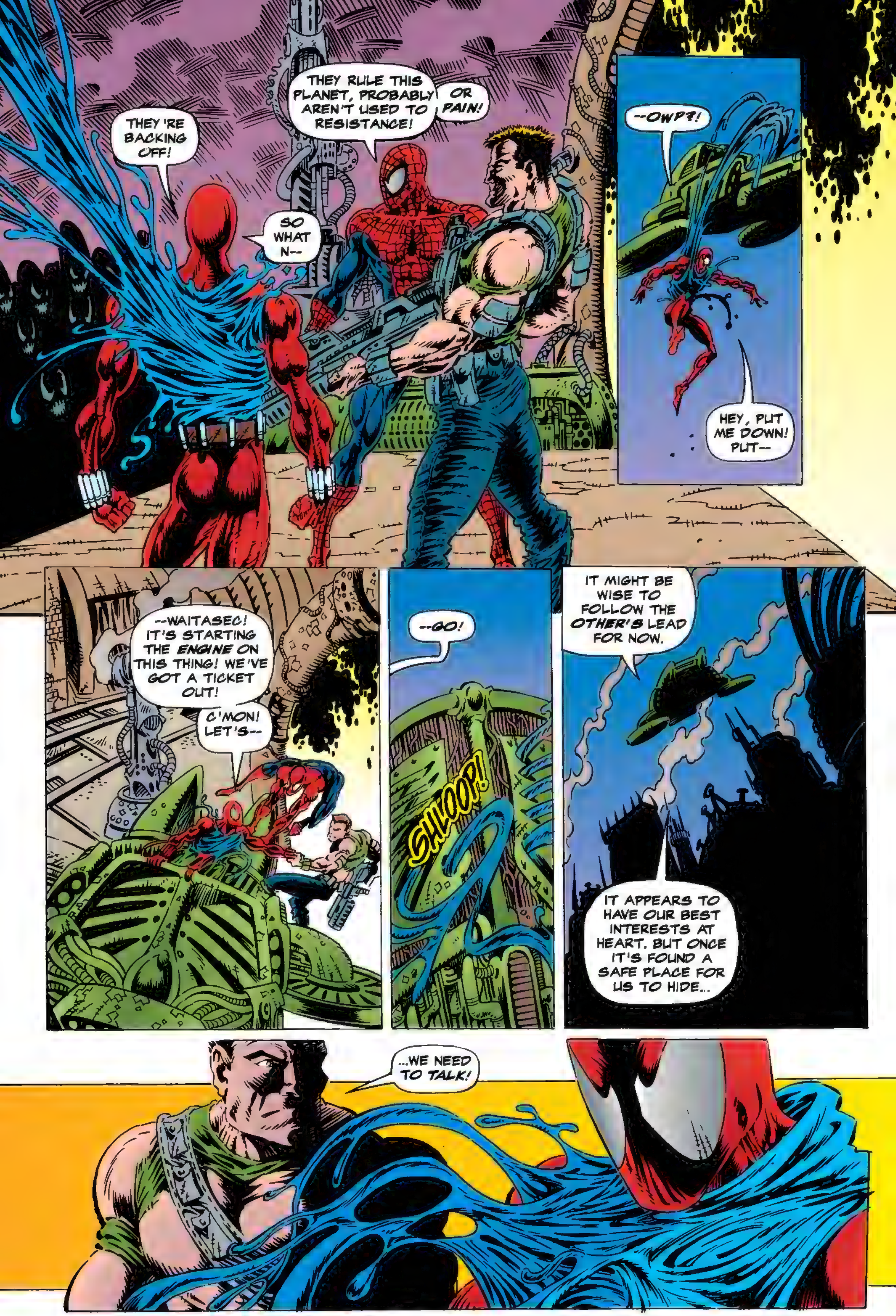
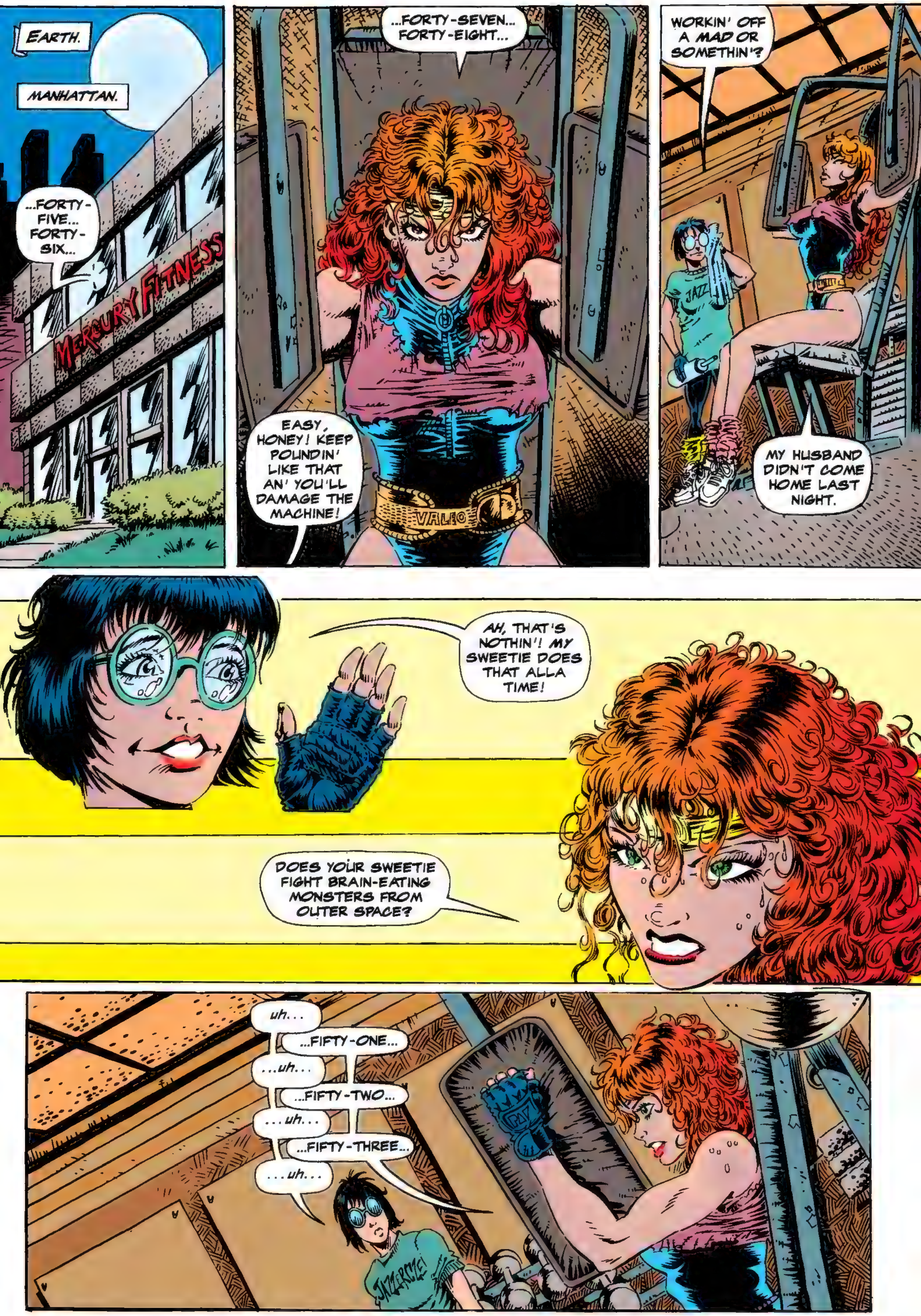
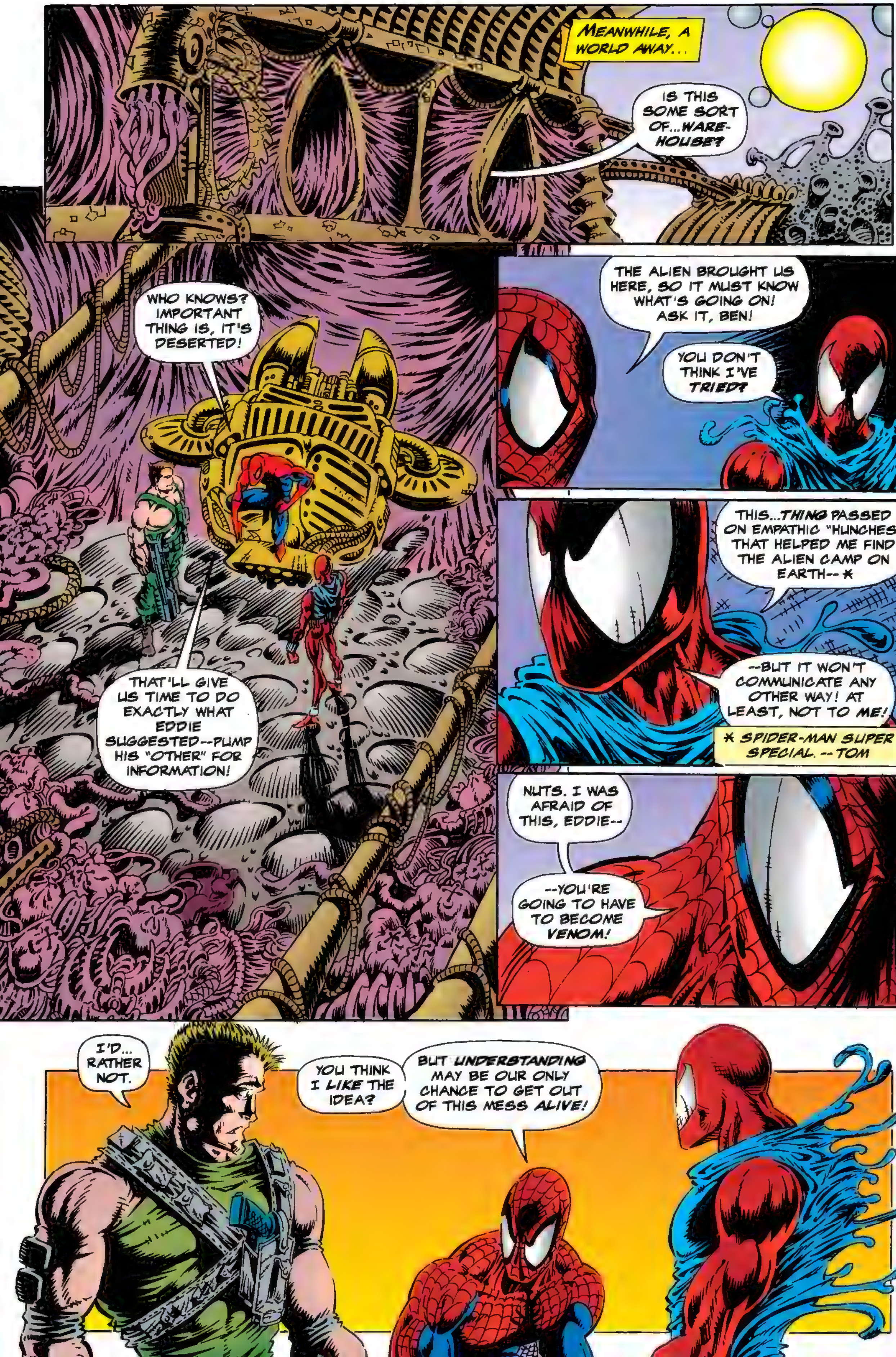
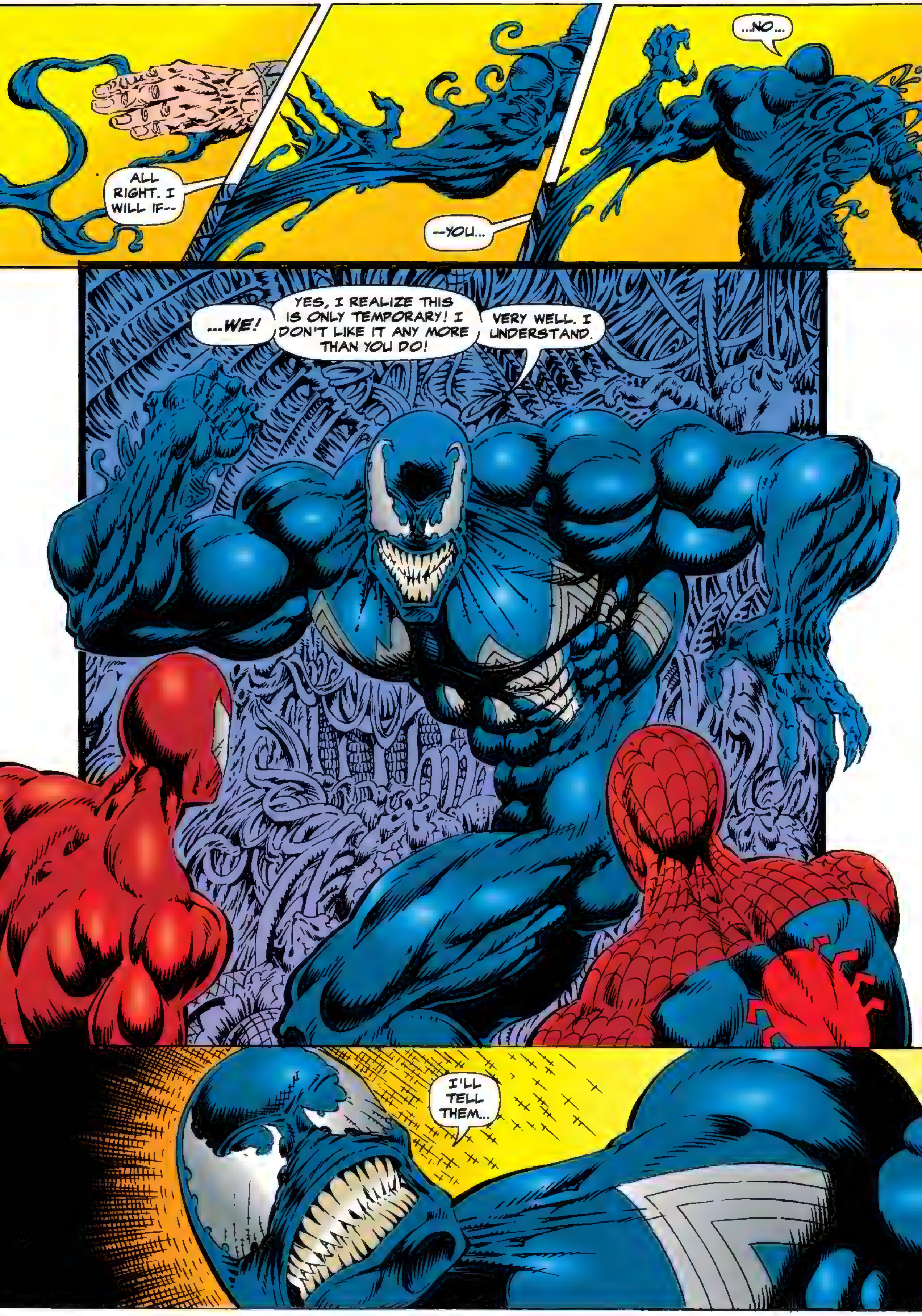

ANOTHER PLANET! THAT ENERGY FIELD TRANSPORTED US TO *ANOTHER PLANET!*
ONE WHERE SYMBIOTES HAVE *ALREADY* TAKEN OVER!
YEAH...
...AND THEY DON'T SEEM TOO THRILLED TO HAVE *VISITORS!*
TOO MANY TO FIGHT! BUT IF THEY'RE LIKE THE *VENOM* SYMBIOTE, THEY SHOULD BE VULNERABLE TO *SONICS!*
EDDIE, HIT 'EM WITH THE SOUND GUN!

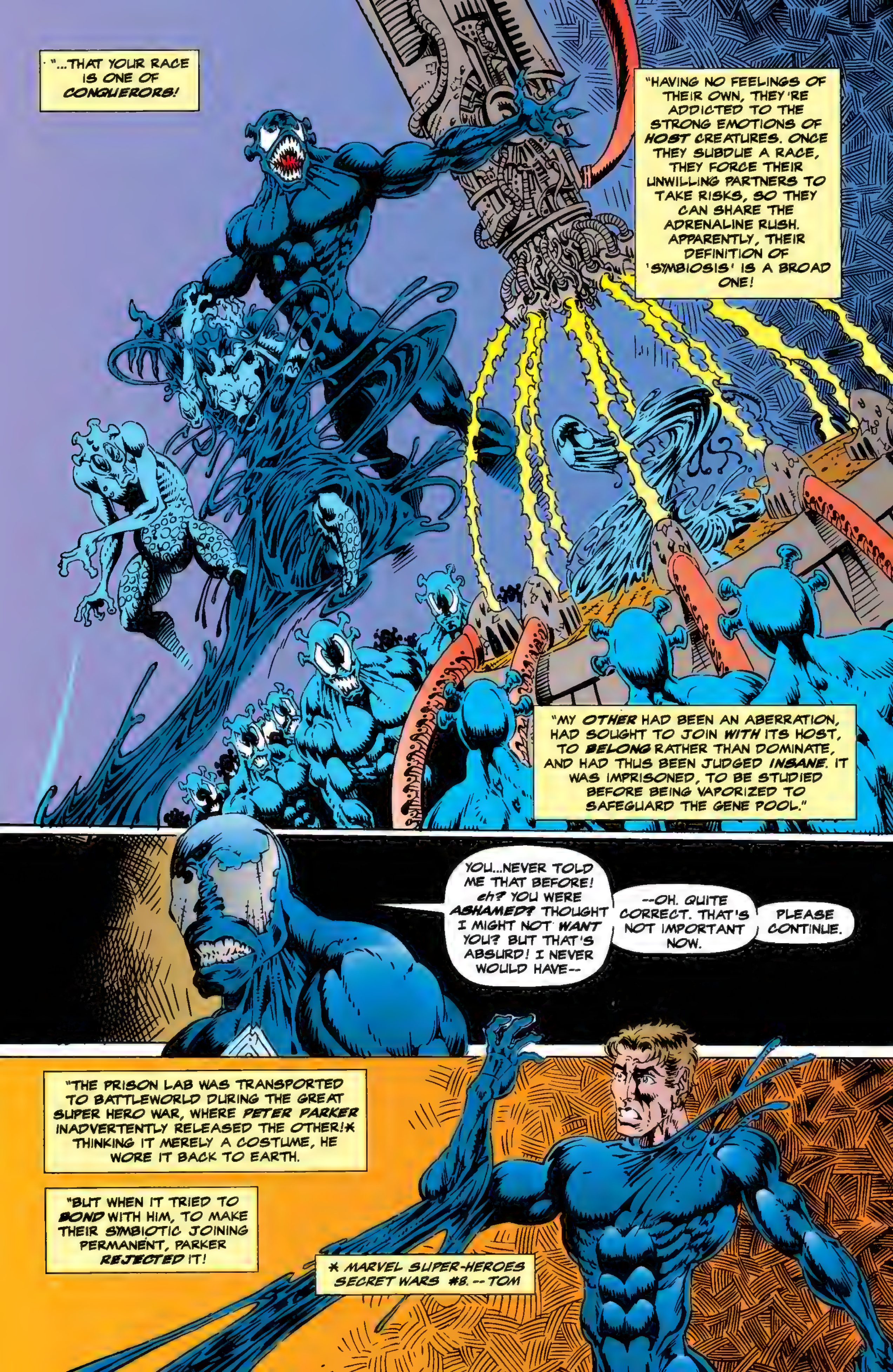

EDDIE? OH, GREAT...
...HE'S TOTALLY FREAKED!
I'VE BEEN TO OTHER WORLDS, AND YOU HAVE CLONE MEMORIES OF THEM! BUT THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR EDDIE!
CREATURES SEEM TO BE TARGETING ME!
WE'VE GOT TO SNAP BROCK OUT OF IT SOMEH--
--OW!
OW!
I...I FELT THAT ONE'S PAIN! COULD IT BE--
--MY "OTHER"?
LEAVE HIM ALONE!
SHREEEERRREEEEEE!

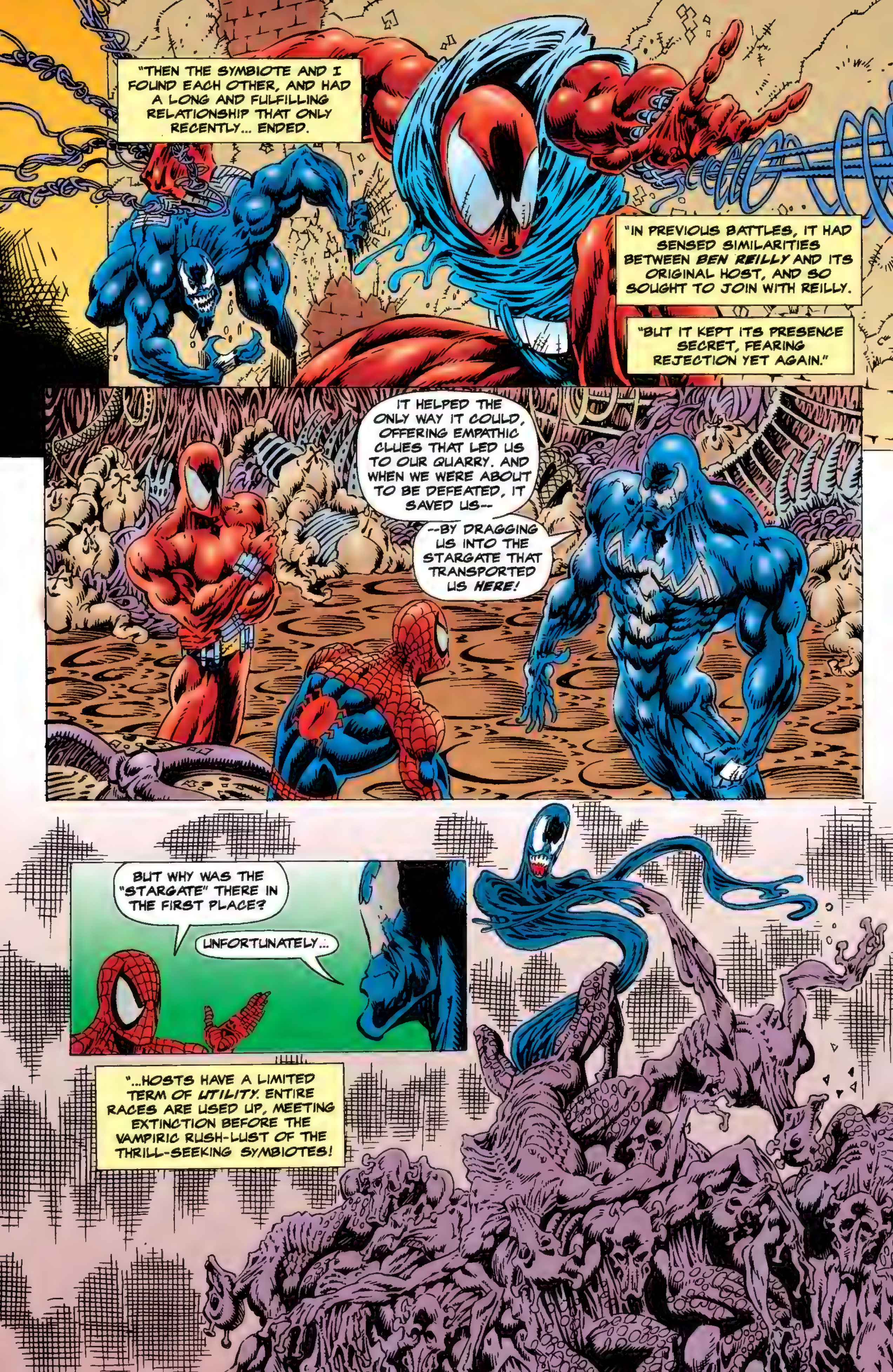

THEY'RE BACKING OFF!
THEY RULE THIS PLANET, PROBABLY AREN'T USED TO RESISTANCE!
OR PAIN!
SO WHAT N--
--OWP?!
HEY, PUT ME DOWN! PUT--
--WAITASEC! IT'S STARTING THE ENGINE ON THIS THING! WE'VE GOT A TICKET OUT!
C'MON! LET'S--
--GO!
SHLOOP!
IT MIGHT BE WISE TO FOLLOW THE OTHER'S LEAD FOR NOW.
IT APPEARS TO HAVE OUR BEST INTERESTS AT HEART. BUT ONCE IT'S FOUND A SAFE PLACE FOR US TO HIDE...
...WE NEED TO TALK!

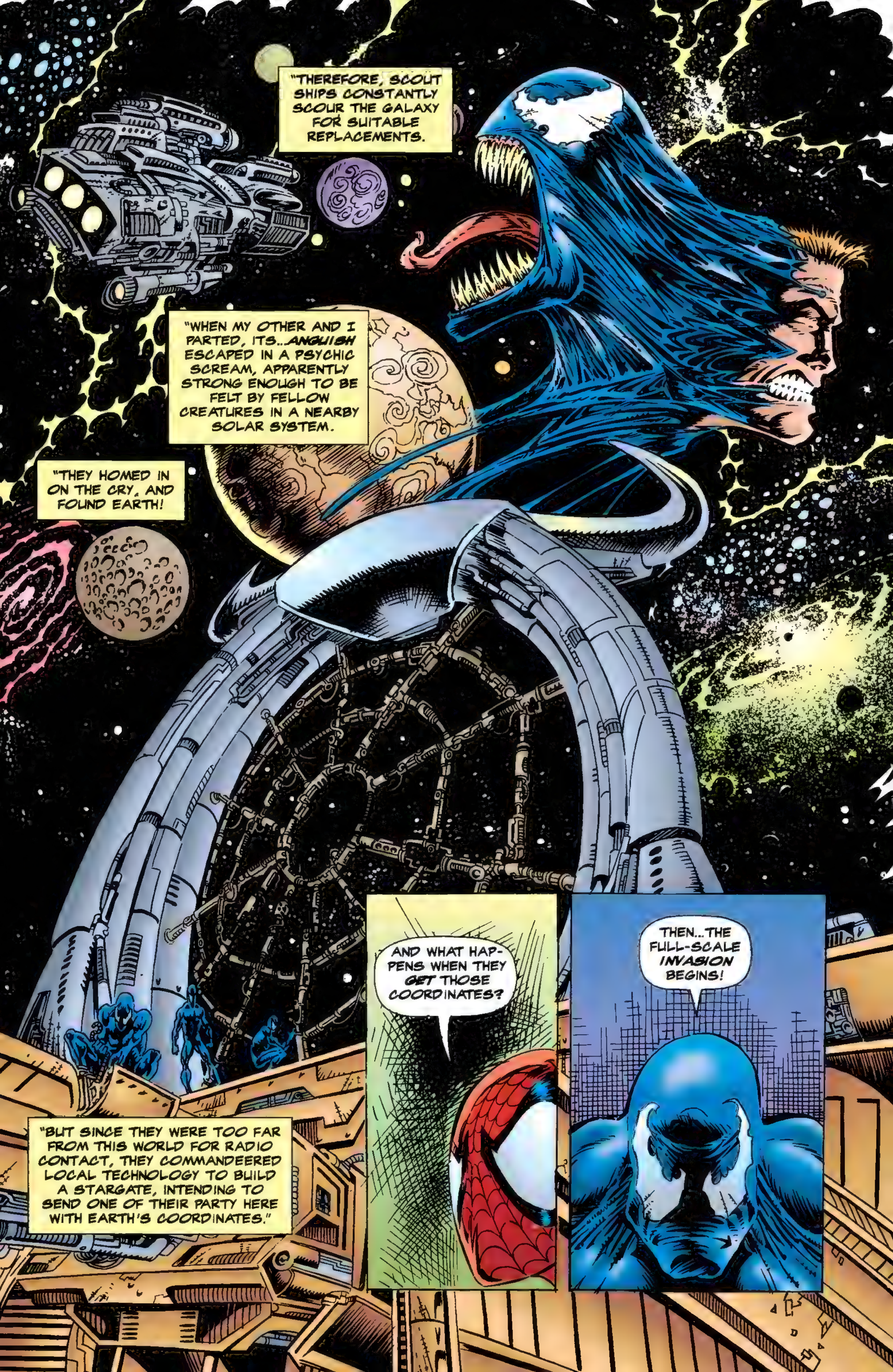

EARTH.
MANHATTAN.
...FORTY-FIVE... FORTY-SIX...
MERCURY FITNESS
...FORTY-SEVEN... FORTY-EIGHT...
EASY, HONEY! KEEP POUNDIN' LIKE THAT AN' YOU'LL DAMAGE THE MACHINE!
VALEO
WORKIN' OFF A *MAD* OR SOMETHIN'?
JAZZ
MY HUSBAND DIDN'T COME HOME LAST NIGHT.
AH, THAT'S NOTHIN'! MY SWEETIE DOES THAT ALLA TIME!
DOES YOUR SWEETIE FIGHT BRAIN-EATING MONSTERS FROM OUTER SPACE?
uh...
...FIFTY-ONE...
...uh...
...FIFTY-TWO...
...uh...
...FIFTY-THREE...
...uh...
JAZZERCIZE!

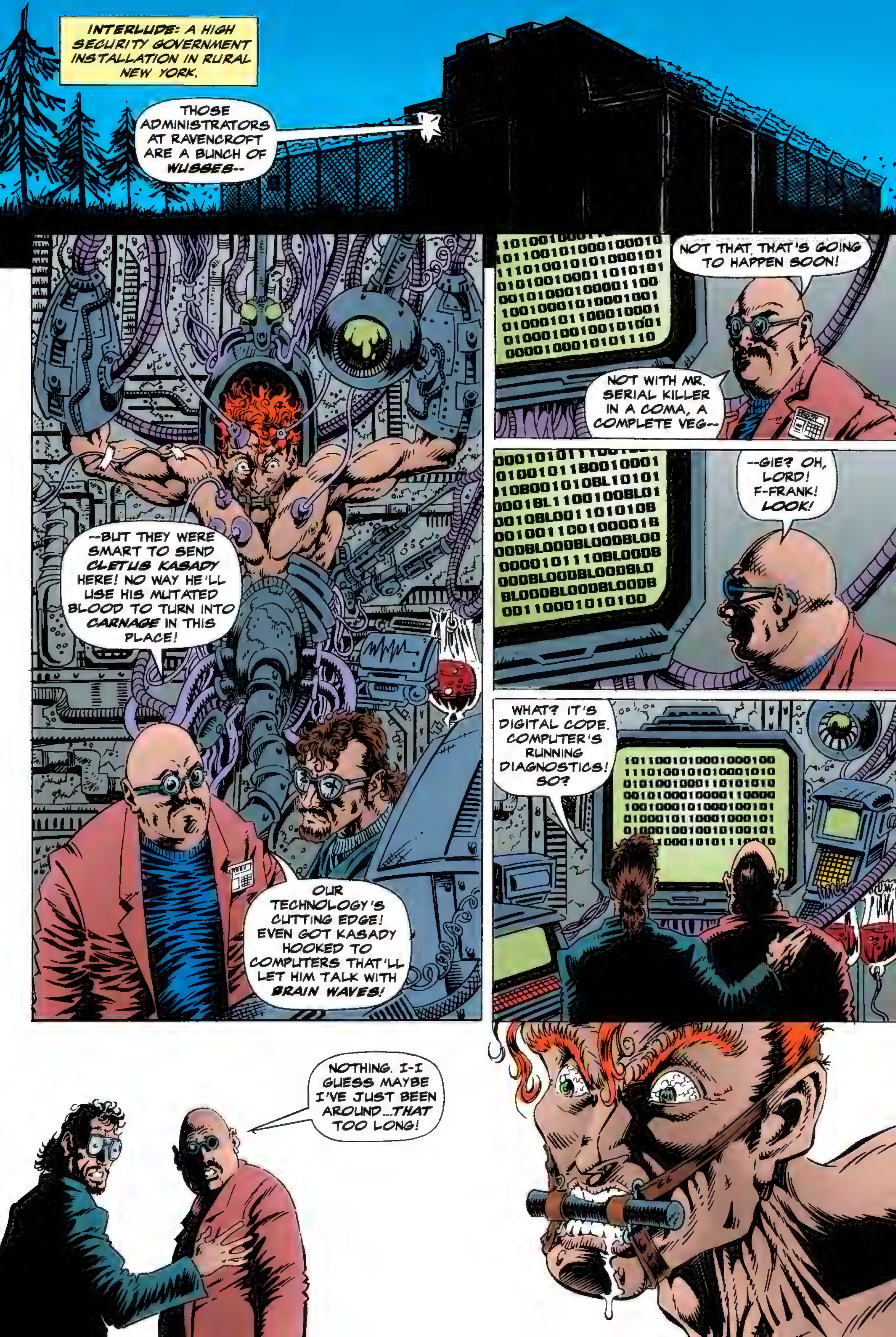

MEANWHILE, A WORLD AWAY...
IS THIS SOME SORT OF...WAREHOUSE?
WHO KNOWS? IMPORTANT THING IS, IT'S DESERTED!
THAT'LL GIVE US TIME TO DO EXACTLY WHAT EDDIE SUGGESTED--PUMP HIS "OTHER" FOR INFORMATION!
THE ALIEN BROUGHT US HERE, SO IT MUST KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON! ASK IT, BEN!
YOU DON'T THINK I'VE *TRIED?*
THIS...*THING* PASSED ON EMPATHIC "HUNCHES" THAT HELPED ME FIND THE ALIEN CAMP ON EARTH-- *
--BUT IT WON'T COMMUNICATE ANY OTHER WAY! AT LEAST, NOT TO *ME!*
* SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL. --TOM
NUTS. I WAS AFRAID OF THIS, EDDIE--
--YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BECOME *VENOM!*
I'D... RATHER NOT.
YOU THINK I *LIKE* THE IDEA?
BUT *UNDERSTANDING* MAY BE OUR ONLY CHANCE TO GET OUT OF THIS MESS *ALIVE!*

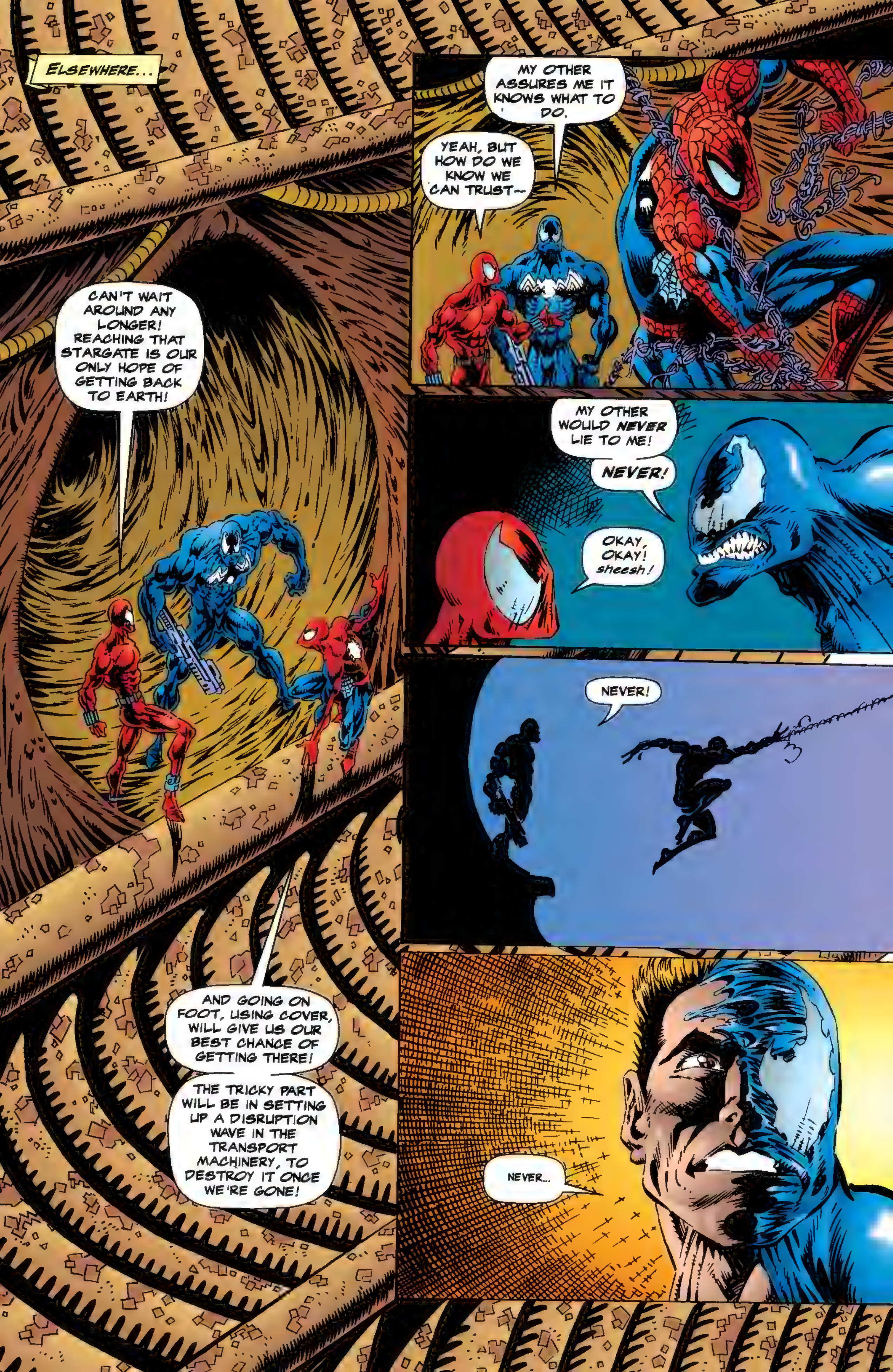

ALL RIGHT. I WILL IF--
--YOU...
...NO...
...WE!
YES, I REALIZE THIS IS ONLY TEMPORARY! I DON'T LIKE IT ANY MORE THAN YOU DO!
VERY WELL. I UNDERSTAND.
I'LL TELL THEM...

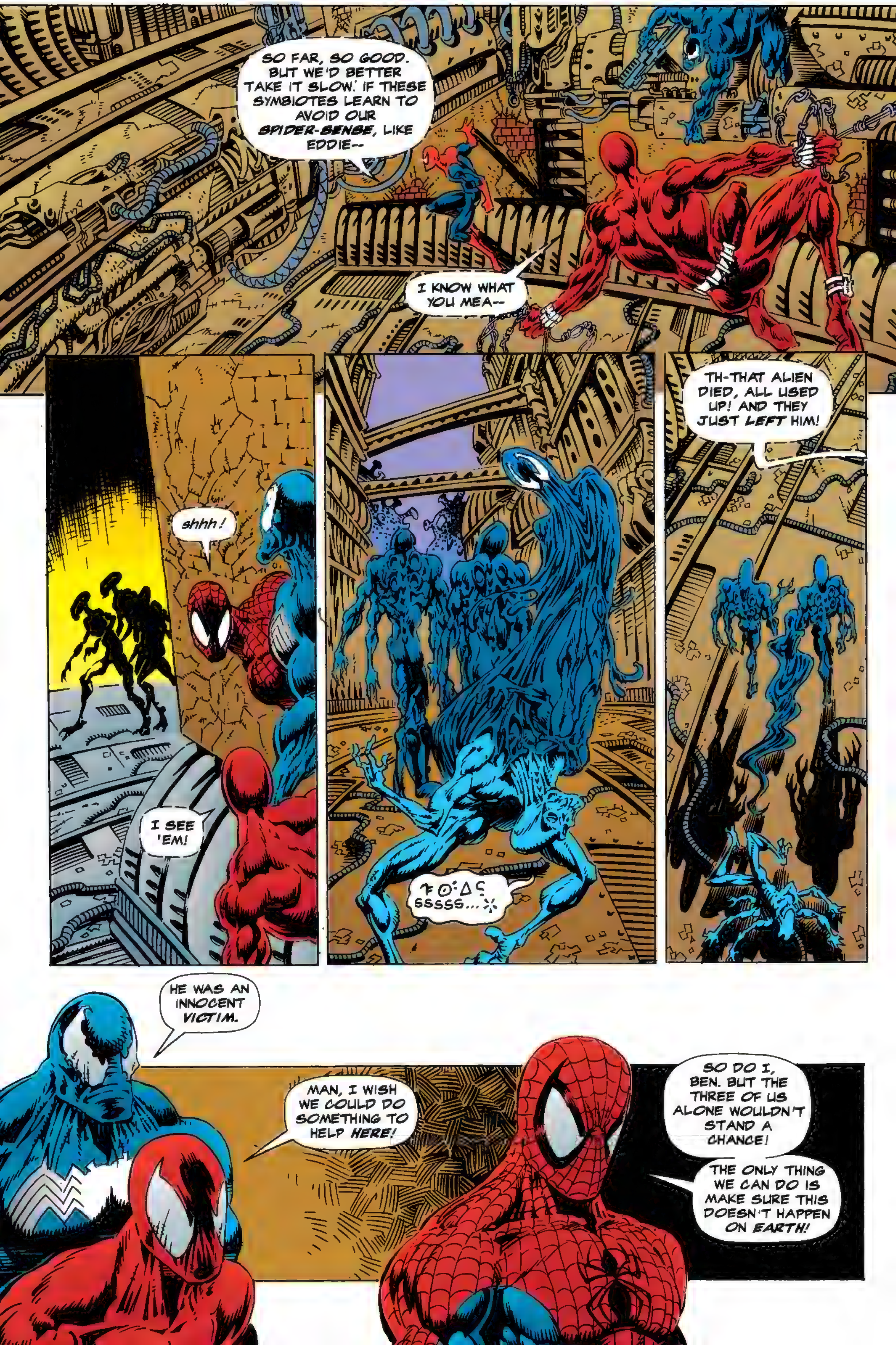

"...THAT YOUR RACE IS ONE OF CONQUERORS!
"HAVING NO FEELINGS OF THEIR OWN, THEY'RE ADDICTED TO THE STRONG EMOTIONS OF HOST CREATURES. ONCE THEY SUBDUE A RACE, THEY FORCE THEIR UNWILLING PARTNERS TO TAKE RISKS, SO THEY CAN SHARE THE ADRENALINE RUSH. APPARENTLY, THEIR DEFINITION OF 'SYMBIOSIS' IS A BROAD ONE!
"MY OTHER HAD BEEN AN ABERRATION, HAD SOUGHT TO JOIN WITH ITS HOST, TO BELONG RATHER THAN DOMINATE, AND HAD THUS BEEN JUDGED INSANE. IT WAS IMPRISONED, TO BE STUDIED BEFORE BEING VAPORIZED TO SAFEGUARD THE GENE POOL."
YOU...NEVER TOLD ME THAT BEFORE! eh? YOU WERE ASHAMED? THOUGHT I MIGHT NOT WANT YOU? BUT THAT'S ABSURD! I NEVER WOULD HAVE--
--OH. QUITE CORRECT. THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT NOW.
PLEASE CONTINUE.
"THE PRISON LAB WAS TRANSPORTED TO BATTLEWORLD DURING THE GREAT SUPER HERO WAR, WHERE PETER PARKER INADVERTENTLY RELEASED THE OTHER!* THINKING IT MERELY A COSTUME, HE WORE IT BACK TO EARTH.
"BUT WHEN IT TRIED TO BOND WITH HIM, TO MAKE THEIR SYMBIOTIC JOINING PERMANENT, PARKER REJECTED IT!
* MARVEL SUPER-HEROES SECRET WARS #8. -- TOM

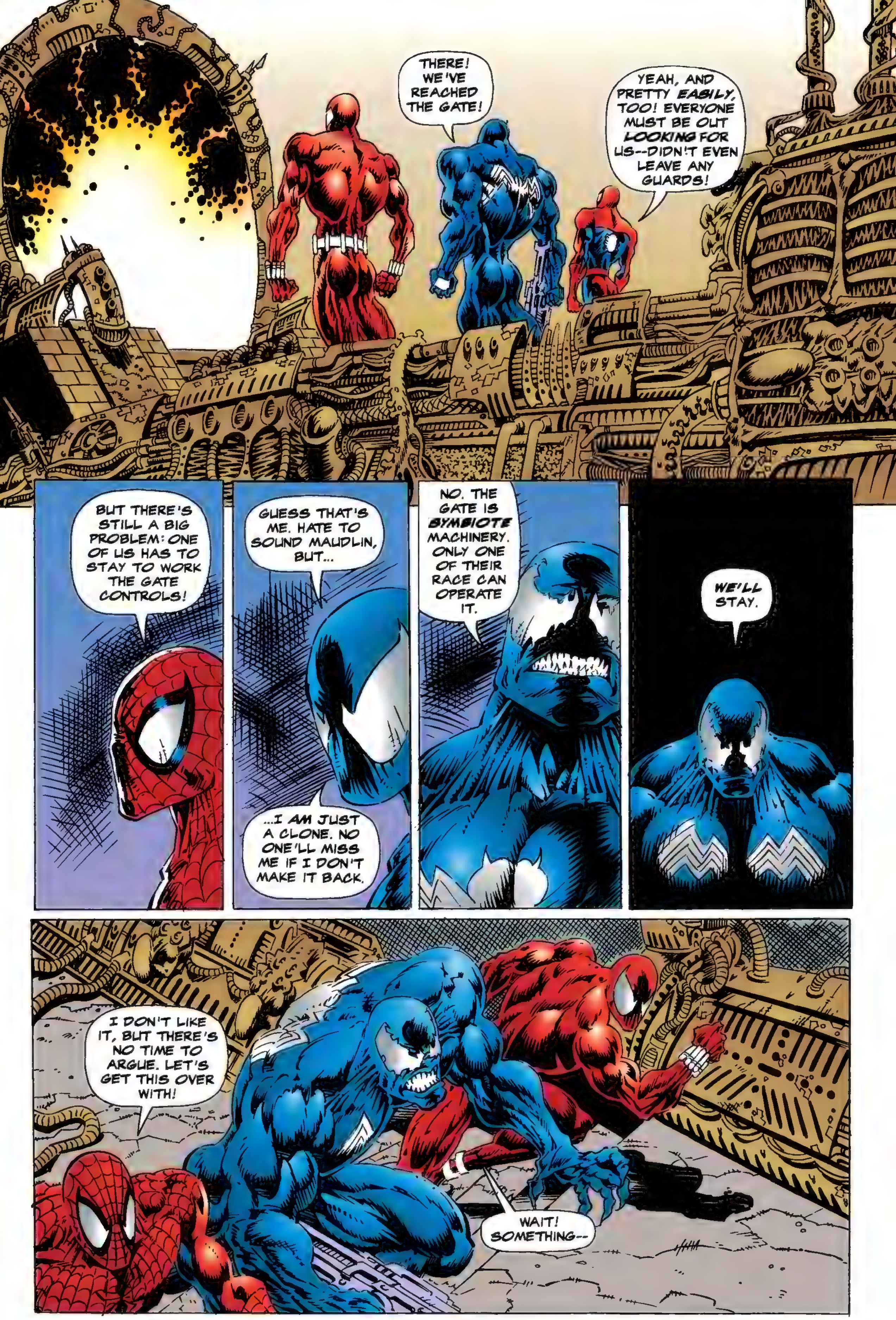

"THEN THE SYMBIOTE AND I FOUND EACH OTHER, AND HAD A LONG AND FULFILLING RELATIONSHIP THAT ONLY RECENTLY... ENDED.
"IN PREVIOUS BATTLES, IT HAD SENSED SIMILARITIES BETWEEN *BEN REILLY* AND ITS ORIGINAL HOST, AND SO SOUGHT TO JOIN WITH REILLY.
"BUT IT KEPT ITS PRESENCE SECRET, FEARING REJECTION YET AGAIN."
IT HELPED THE ONLY WAY IT COULD, OFFERING EMPATHIC CLUES THAT LED US TO OUR QUARRY. AND WHEN WE WERE ABOUT TO BE DEFEATED, IT SAVED US--
--BY DRAGGING US INTO THE STARGATE THAT TRANSPORTED US *HERE!*
BUT WHY WAS THE "STARGATE" THERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
UNFORTUNATELY...
"...HOSTS HAVE A LIMITED TERM OF *UTILITY*. ENTIRE RACES ARE USED UP, MEETING EXTINCTION BEFORE THE VAMPIRIC RUSH-LUST OF THE THRILL-SEEKING SYMBIOTES!

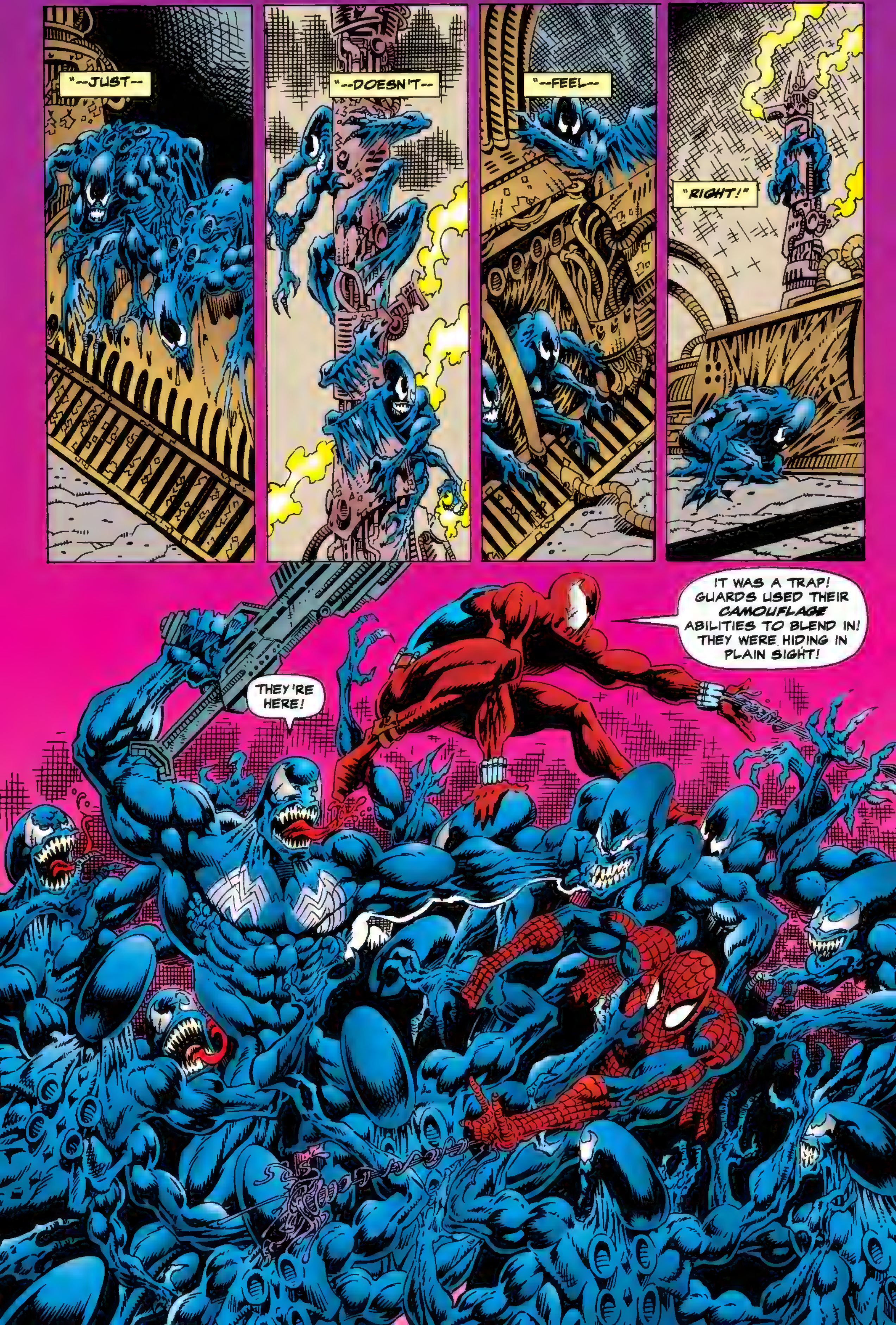

"THEREFORE, SCOUT SHIPS CONSTANTLY SCOUR THE GALAXY FOR SUITABLE REPLACEMENTS.
"WHEN MY *OTHER* AND I PARTED, ITS...*ANGUISH* ESCAPED IN A PSYCHIC SCREAM, APPARENTLY STRONG ENOUGH TO BE FELT BY FELLOW CREATURES IN A NEARBY SOLAR SYSTEM.
"THEY HOMED IN ON THE CRY, AND FOUND EARTH!
"BUT SINCE THEY WERE TOO FAR FROM THIS WORLD FOR RADIO CONTACT, THEY COMMANDEERED LOCAL TECHNOLOGY TO BUILD A STARGATE, INTENDING TO SEND ONE OF THEIR PARTY HERE WITH EARTH'S COORDINATES."
AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEY *GET* THOSE COORDINATES?
THEN...THE FULL-SCALE *INVASION* BEGINS!

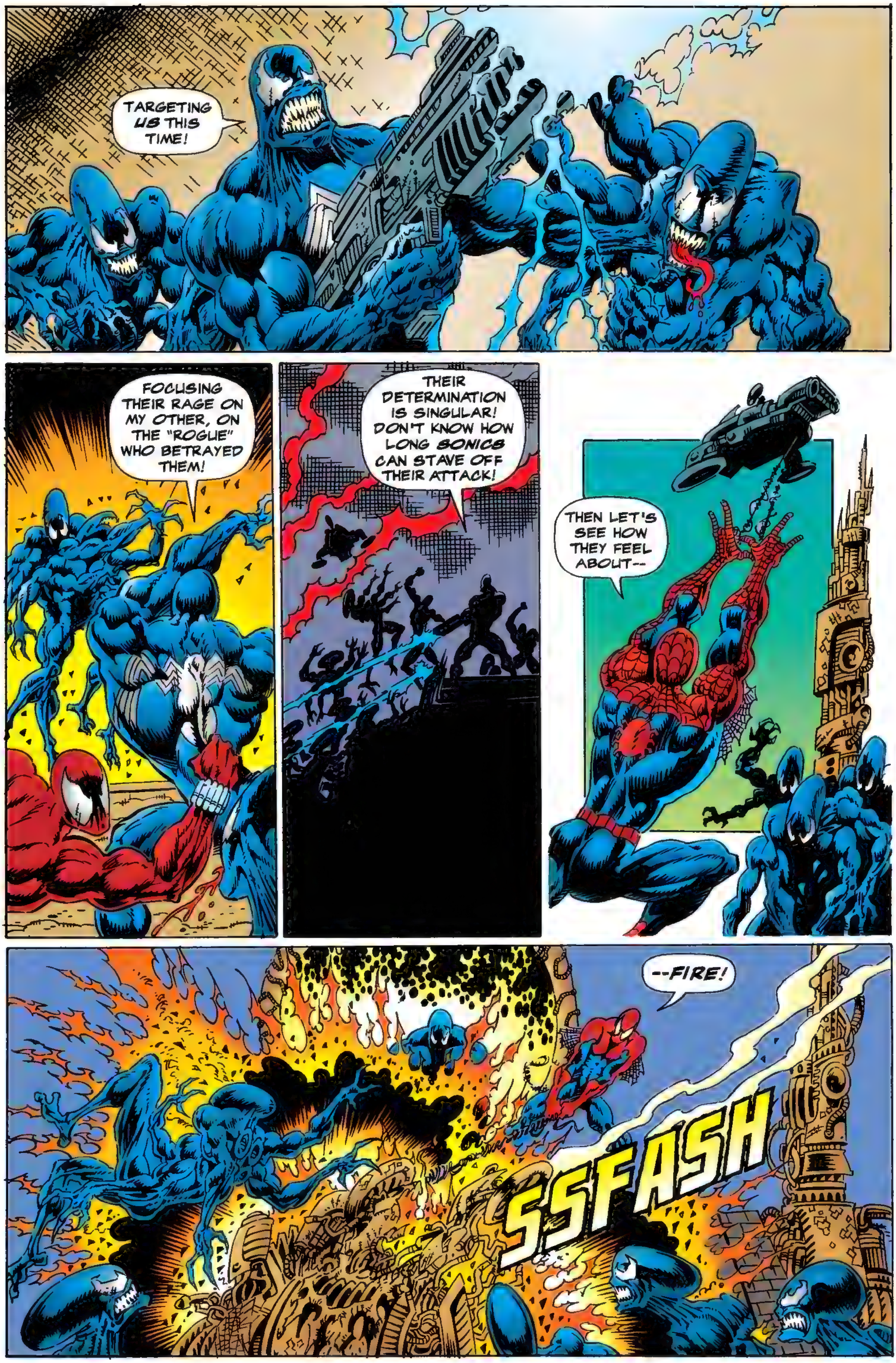

INTERLUDE: A HIGH SECURITY GOVERNMENT INSTALLATION IN RURAL NEW YORK.
THOSE ADMINISTRATORS AT RAVENCROFT ARE A BUNCH OF WUSSES--
--BUT THEY WERE SMART TO SEND CLETUS KASADY HERE! NO WAY HE'LL USE HIS MUTATED BLOOD TO TURN INTO CARNAGE IN THIS PLACE!
OUR TECHNOLOGY'S CUTTING EDGE! EVEN GOT KASADY HOOKED TO COMPUTERS THAT'LL LET HIM TALK WITH BRAIN WAVES!
NOT THAT, THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN SOON!
NOT WITH MR. SERIAL KILLER IN A COMA, A COMPLETE VEG--
--GIE? OH, LORD! F-FRANK! LOOK!
WHAT? IT'S DIGITAL CODE. COMPUTER'S RUNNING DIAGNOSTICS! SO?
NOTHING. I-I GUESS MAYBE I'VE JUST BEEN AROUND...THAT TOO LONG!

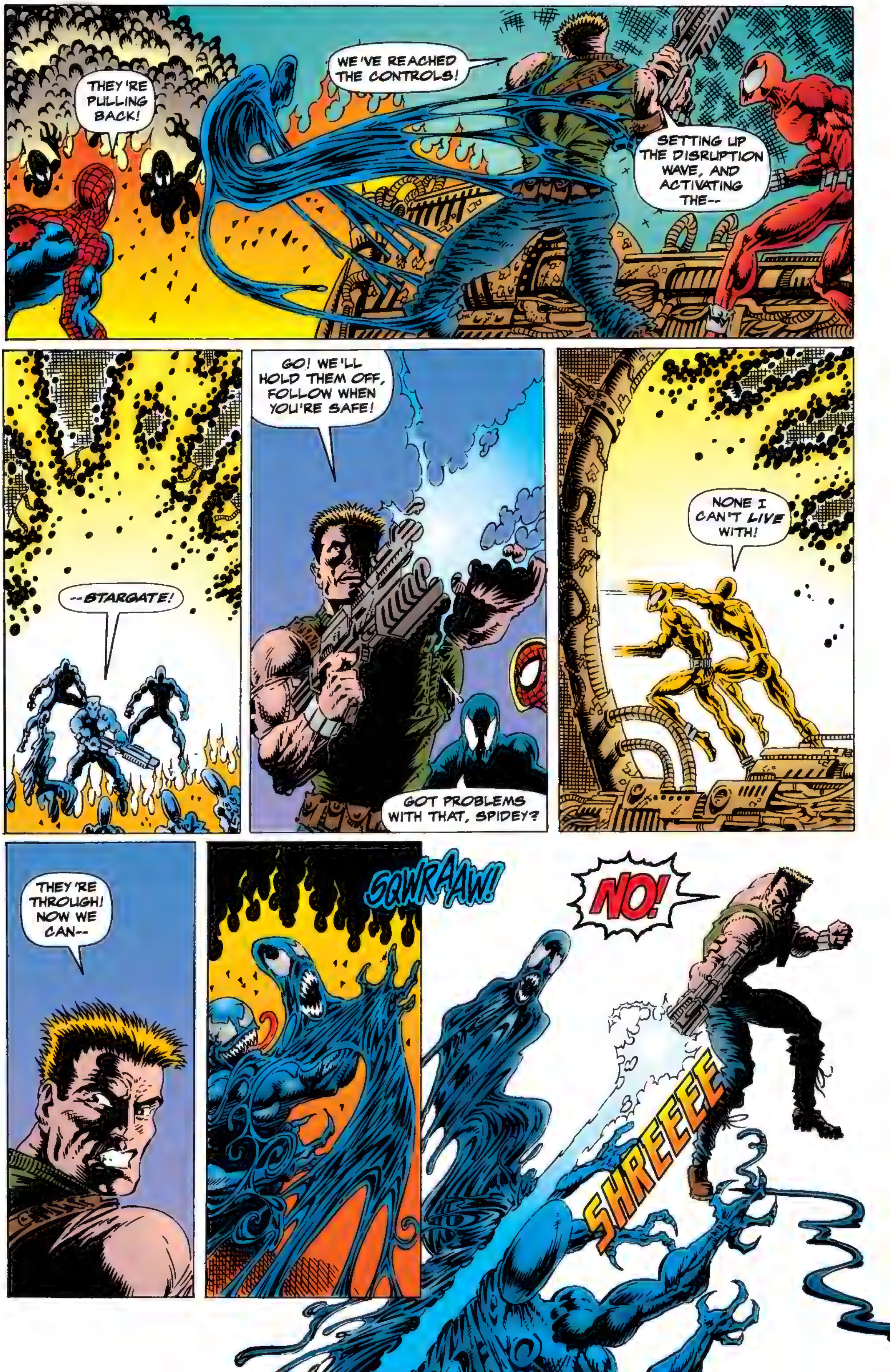

ELSEWHERE...
MY OTHER ASSURES ME IT KNOWS WHAT TO DO.
YEAH, BUT HOW DO WE KNOW WE CAN TRUST--
CAN'T WAIT AROUND ANY LONGER! REACHING THAT STARGATE IS OUR ONLY HOPE OF GETTING BACK TO EARTH!
MY OTHER WOULD NEVER LIE TO ME!
NEVER!
OKAY, OKAY! sheesh!
NEVER!
AND GOING ON FOOT, USING COVER, WILL GIVE US OUR BEST CHANCE OF GETTING THERE!
THE TRICKY PART WILL BE IN SETTING UP A DISRUPTION WAVE IN THE TRANSPORT MACHINERY, TO DESTROY IT ONCE WE'RE GONE!
NEVER...

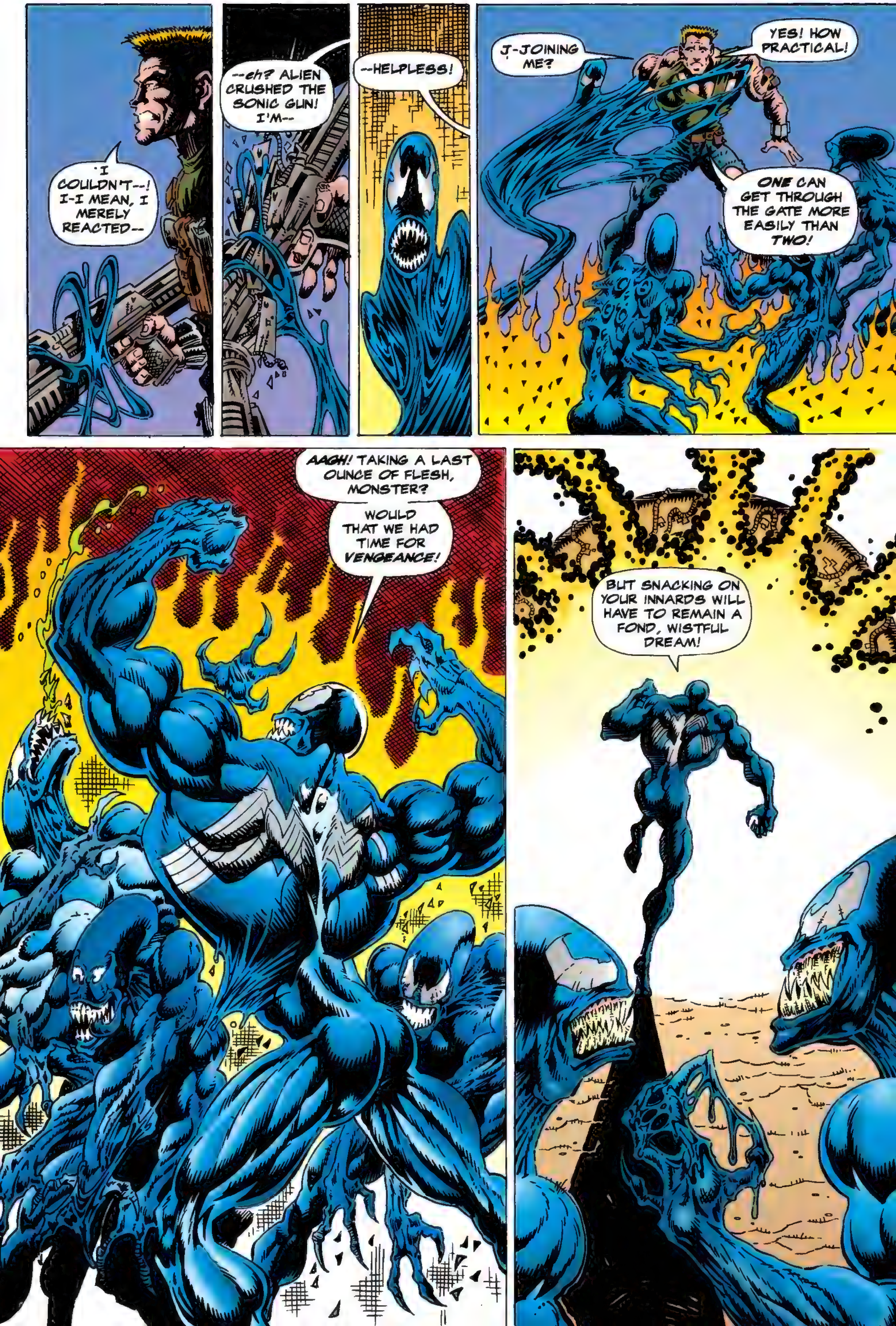

SO FAR, SO GOOD. BUT WE'D BETTER TAKE IT SLOW! IF THESE SYMBIOTES LEARN TO AVOID OUR *SPIDER-SENSE*, LIKE EDDIE--
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEA--
shhh!
I SEE 'EM!
SSSSS...
TH-THAT ALIEN DIED, ALL USED UP! AND THEY JUST *LEFT* HIM!
HE WAS AN INNOCENT *VICTIM.*
MAN, I WISH WE COULD DO SOMETHING TO HELP *HERE!*
SO DO I, BEN. BUT THE THREE OF US ALONE WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE!
THE ONLY THING WE CAN DO IS MAKE SURE THIS DOESN'T HAPPEN ON *EARTH!*

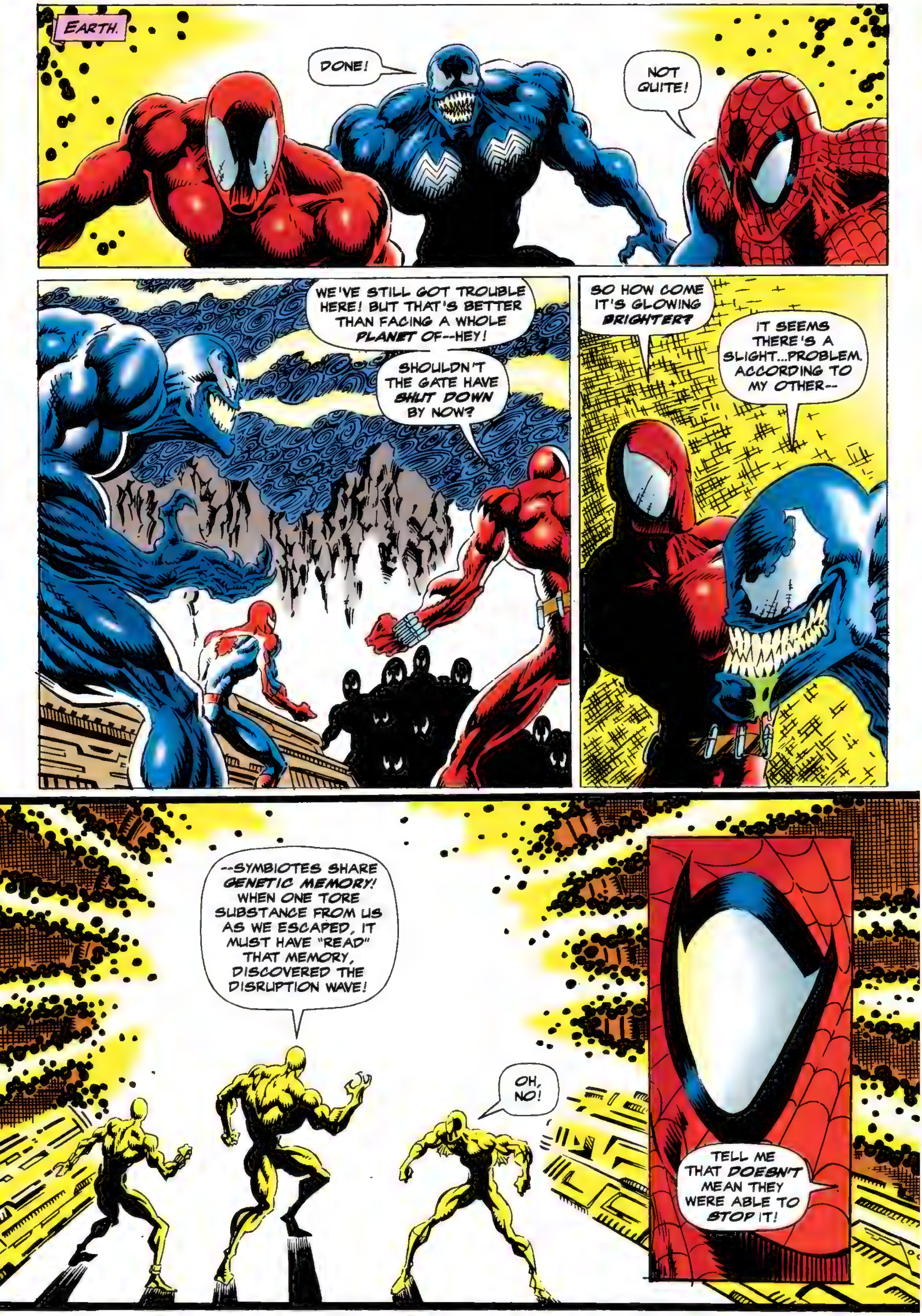

THERE! WE'VE REACHED THE GATE!
YEAH, AND PRETTY *EASILY*, TOO! EVERYONE MUST BE OUT *LOOKING* FOR US--DIDN'T EVEN LEAVE ANY GUARDS!
BUT THERE'S STILL A BIG PROBLEM: ONE OF US HAS TO STAY TO WORK THE GATE CONTROLS!
GUESS THAT'S ME. HATE TO SOUND MAUDLIN, BUT...
...I AM JUST A CLONE. NO ONE'LL MISS ME IF I DON'T MAKE IT BACK.
NO. THE GATE IS *SYMBIOTE* MACHINERY. ONLY ONE OF THEIR RACE CAN OPERATE IT.
WE'LL STAY.
I DON'T LIKE IT, BUT THERE'S NO TIME TO ARGUE. LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH!
WAIT! SOMETHING--

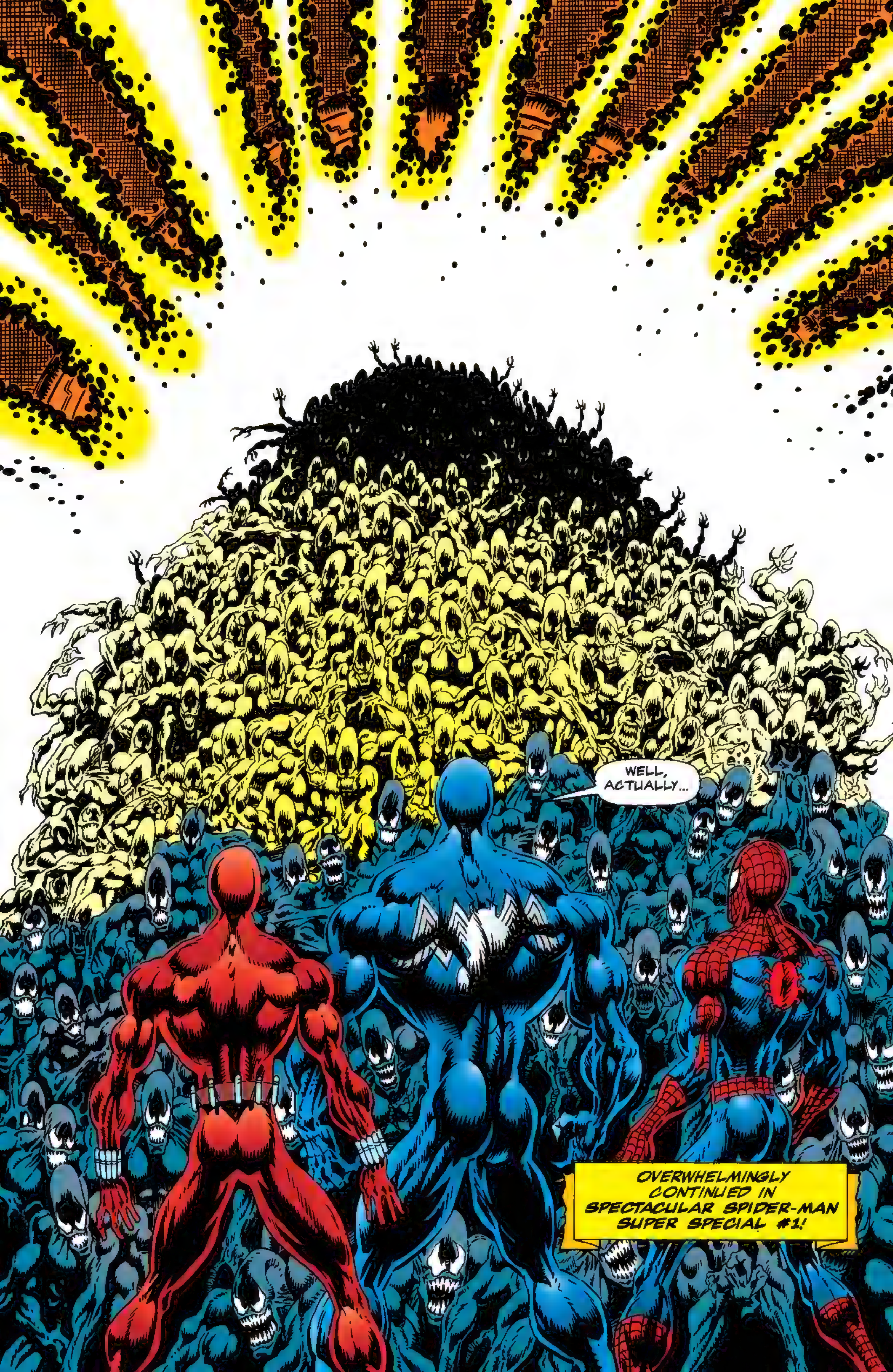

"--JUST--
"--DOESN'T--
"--FEEL--
"RIGHT!"
THEY'RE HERE!
IT WAS A TRAP! GUARDS USED THEIR *CAMOUFLAGE* ABILITIES TO BLEND IN! THEY WERE HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT!

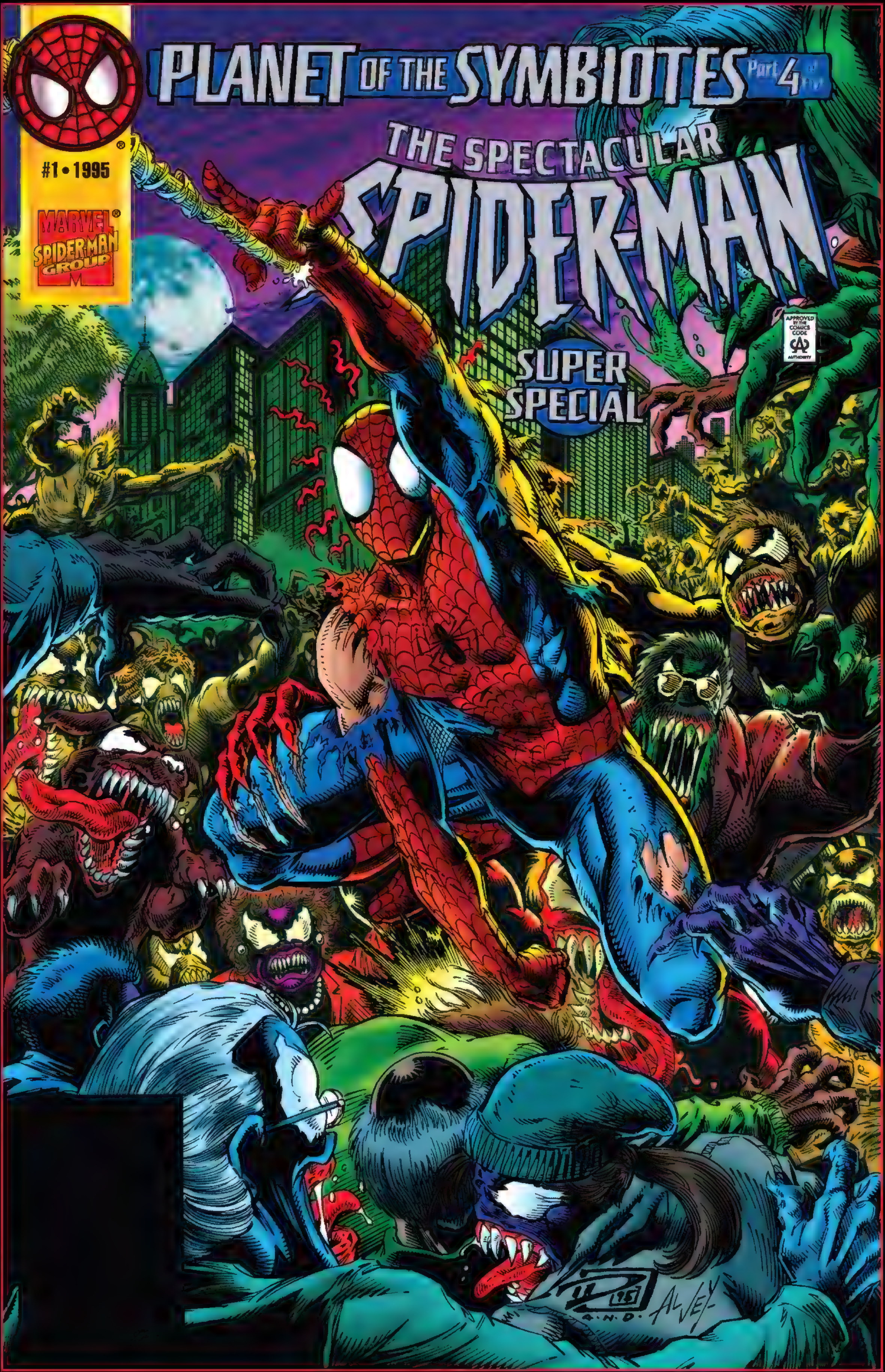

TARGETING *US* THIS TIME!
FOCUSING THEIR RAGE ON MY OTHER, ON THE "ROGUE" WHO BETRAYED THEM!
THEIR DETERMINATION IS SINGULAR! DON'T KNOW HOW LONG *SONICS* CAN STAVE OFF THEIR ATTACK!
THEN LET'S SEE HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT--
--*FIRE!*
SSFASH


THEY'RE PULLING BACK!
WE'VE REACHED THE CONTROLS!
SETTING UP THE DISRUPTION WAVE, AND ACTIVATING THE--
--STARGATE!
GO! WE'LL HOLD THEM OFF, FOLLOW WHEN YOU'RE SAFE!
GOT PROBLEMS WITH THAT, SPIDEY?
NONE I CAN'T *LIVE* WITH!
THEY'RE THROUGH! NOW WE CAN--
SQWRAAW!
NO!
SHREEEE


I COULDN'T--! I-I MEAN, I MERELY REACTED--
--*eh?* ALIEN CRUSHED THE SONIC GUN! I'M--
--HELPLESS!
J-JOINING ME?
YES! HOW PRACTICAL!
ONE CAN GET THROUGH THE GATE MORE EASILY THAN *TWO!*
AAGH! TAKING A LAST OUNCE OF FLESH, MONSTER?
WOULD THAT WE HAD TIME FOR *VENGEANCE!*
BUT SNACKING ON YOUR INNARDS WILL HAVE TO REMAIN A FOND, WISTFUL DREAM!


EARTH.
DONE!
NOT QUITE!
WE'VE STILL GOT TROUBLE HERE! BUT THAT'S BETTER THAN FACING A WHOLE *PLANET* OF--HEY!
SHOULDN'T THE GATE HAVE *SHUT DOWN* BY NOW?
SO HOW COME IT'S GLOWING *BRIGHTER?*
IT SEEMS THERE'S A SLIGHT...PROBLEM. ACCORDING TO MY OTHER--
--SYMBIOTES SHARE *GENETIC MEMORY!* WHEN ONE TORE SUBSTANCE FROM US AS WE ESCAPED, IT MUST HAVE "READ" THAT MEMORY, DISCOVERED THE DISRUPTION WAVE!
OH, NO!
TELL ME THAT *DOESN'T* MEAN THEY WERE ABLE TO *STOP* IT!


WELL, ACTUALLY...
OVERWHELMINGLY CONTINUED IN SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL #1!


PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES Part 4 of Five
THE SPECTACULAR
SPIDER-MAN
SUPER SPECIAL
#1 • 1995
MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN GROUP
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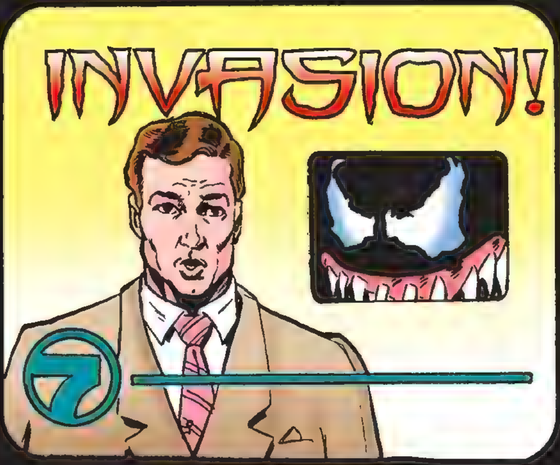
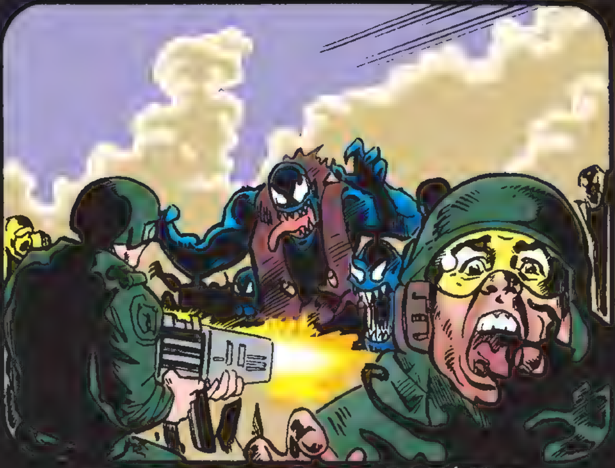
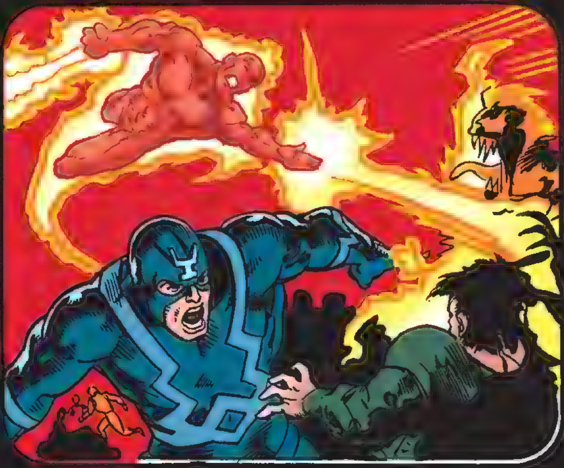


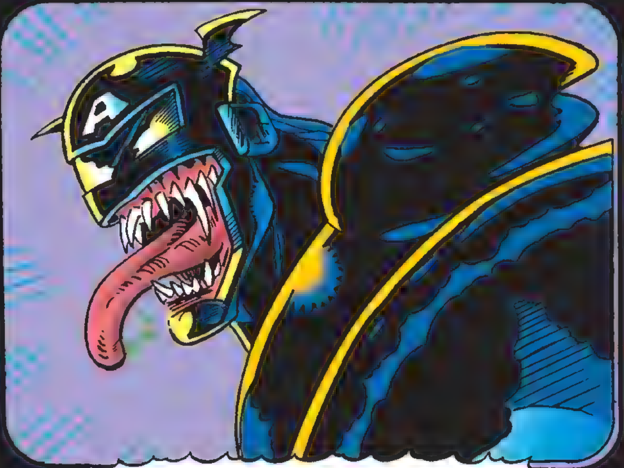
...IN SUMMARY: THE GLOBAL SITUATION REMAINS UNCHANGED, AND UNREMITTINGLY GRIM.



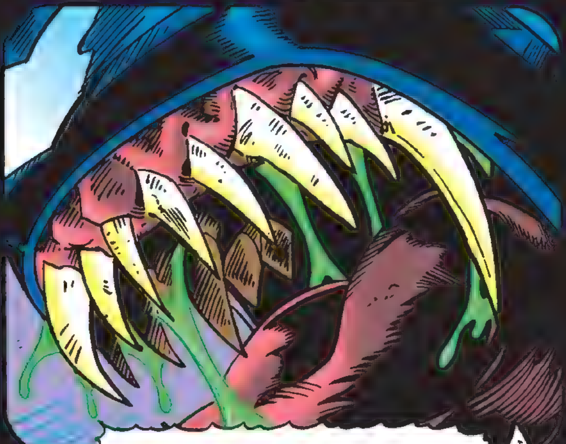
IMPOSSIBLE AS IT SOUNDS, SHAPE-SHIFTING **ALIENS** HAVE SPREAD OVER THE PLANET, TAKING HUMAN HOSTS AS SLAVES, LEAVING A TERRIFYING TRAIL OF DEATH AND DESPAIR!



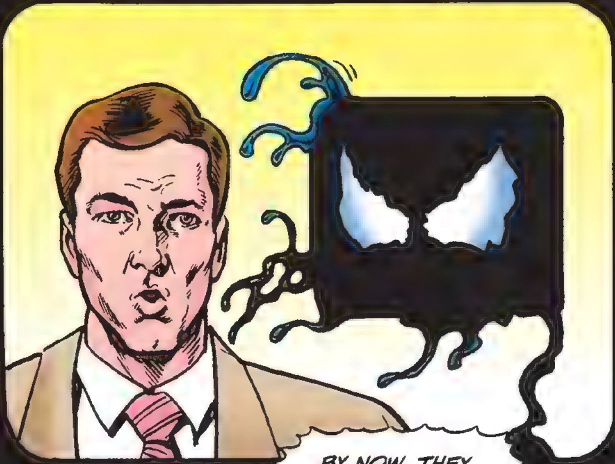
BOLD PROTECTORS LIKE THE **HUMAN TORCH** AND **BLACK BOLT** HAVE HAD SOME SUCCESS FIGHTING THE MENACE WITH FIRE AND SONICS. BUT ALAS...



...OTHERS HAVEN'T FARED SO WELL. THE WORLD SHARES THE PAIN OF **CAPTAIN AMERICA** AND OTHER FALLEN HEROES. BUT WE KNOW THAT IF CAP COULD, HE'D TELL YOU TO STAY INSIDE, BEHIND LOCKED DOORS.

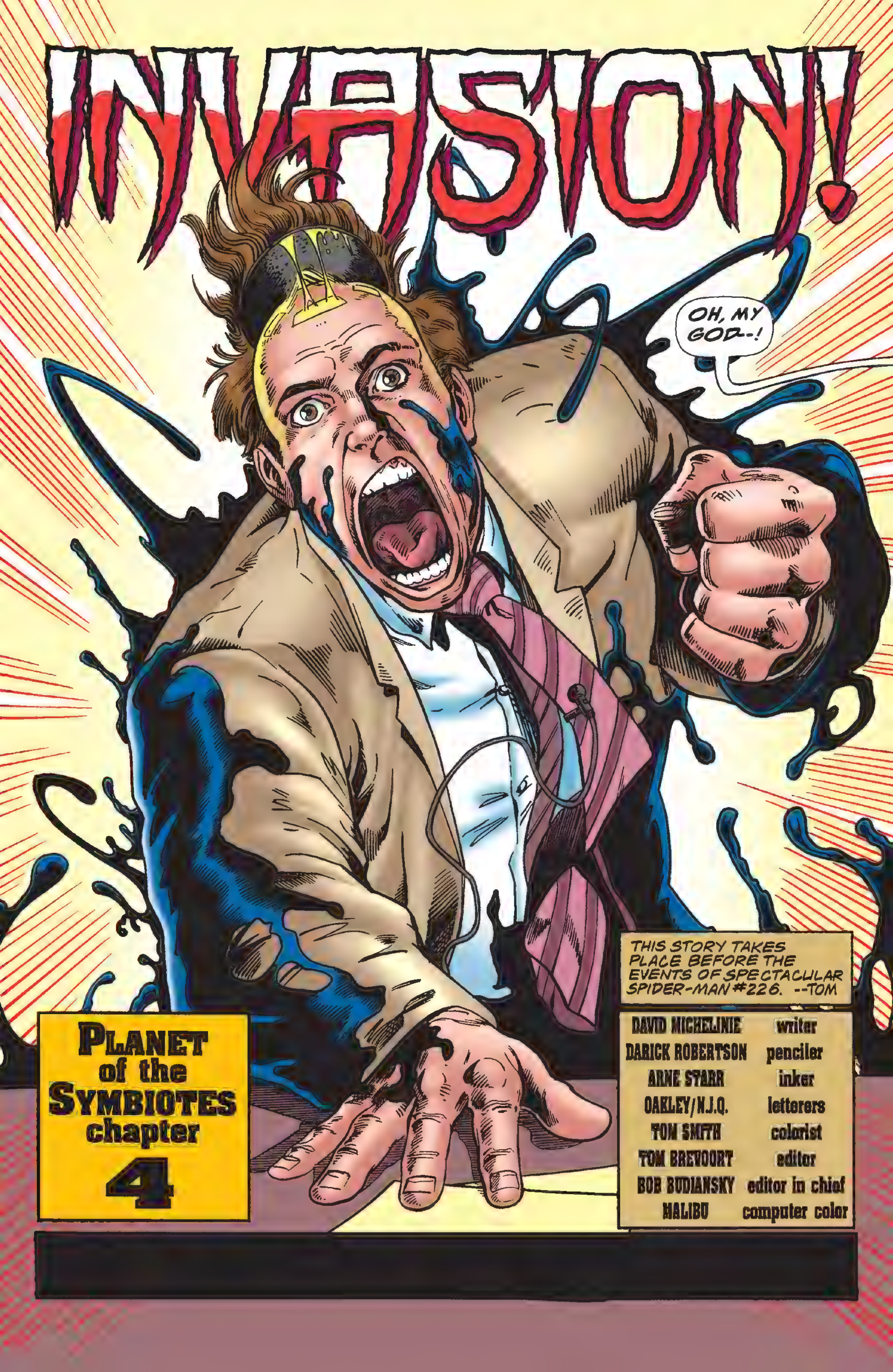


SO FAR, THE INVADERS HAVE MOSTLY TARGETED STRATEGIC LOCATIONS, BUT THEIR PRESENCE IS INEXORABLY INCREASING!



BY NOW THEY COULD BE ANY... WH-WHERE...?

INVASION!



THIS STORY TAKES PLACE BEFORE THE EVENTS OF SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #226. --TOM

PLANET of the SYMBIOTES chapter 4

DAVID MICHELINIE	writer
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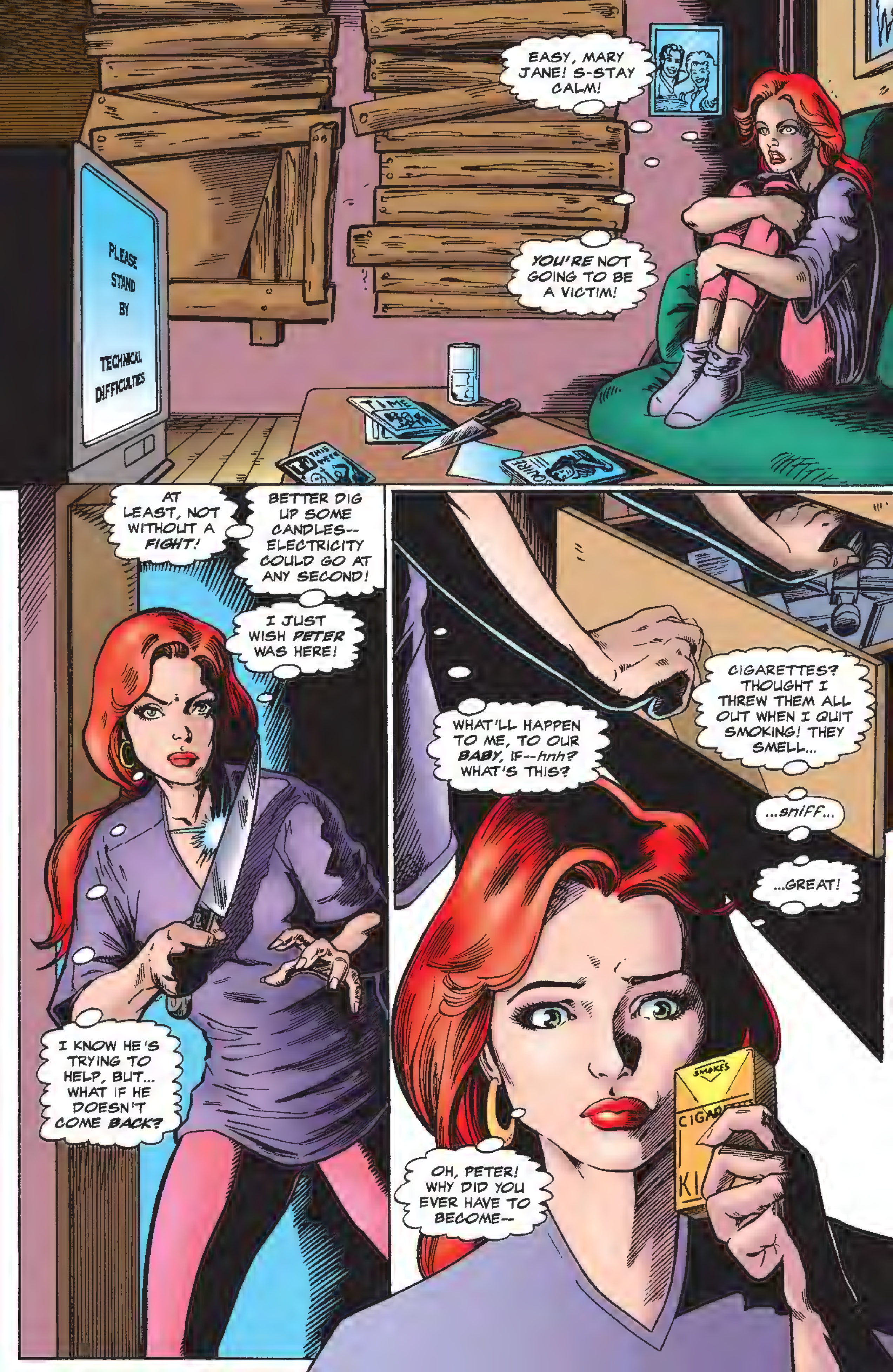
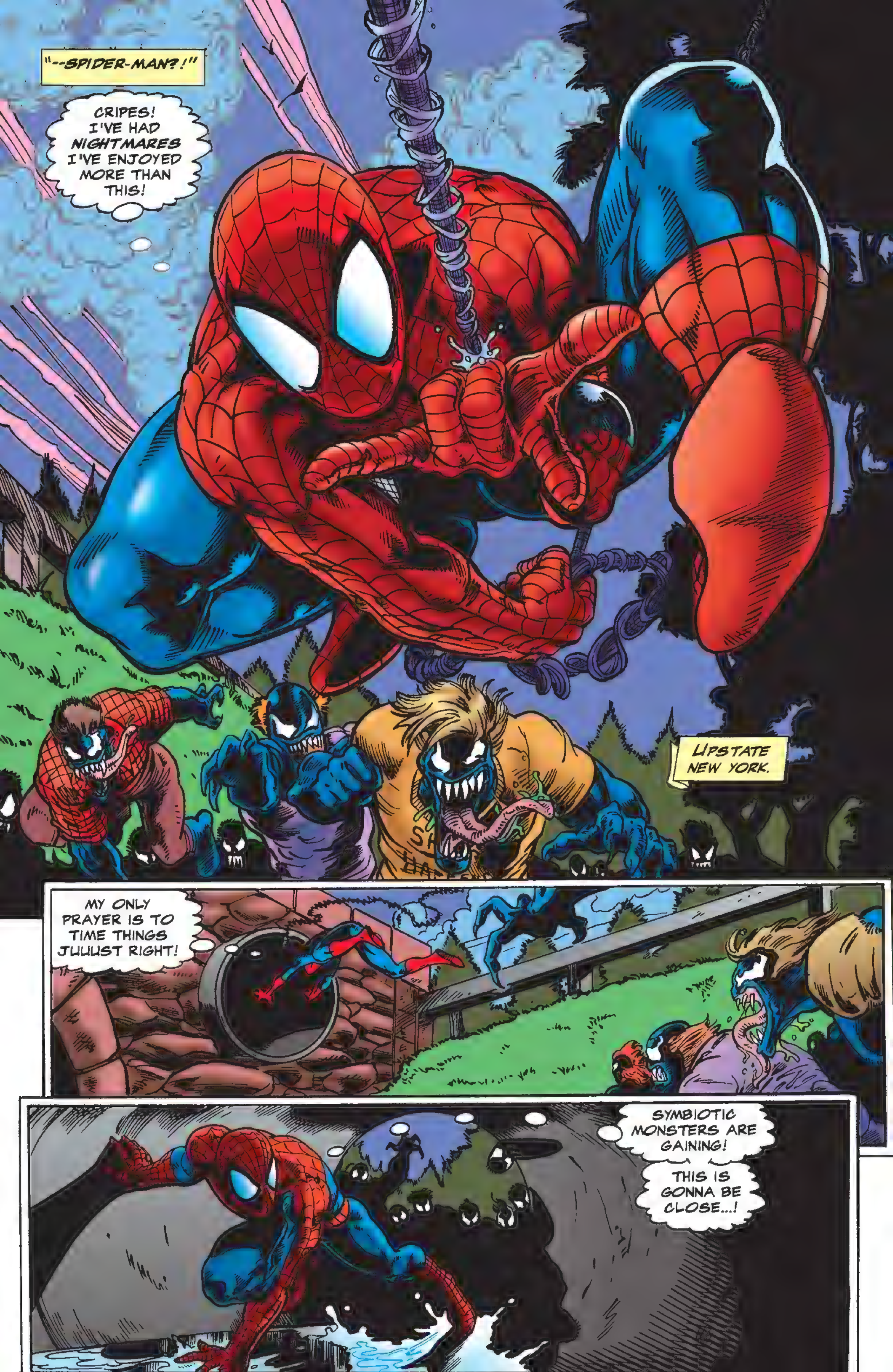
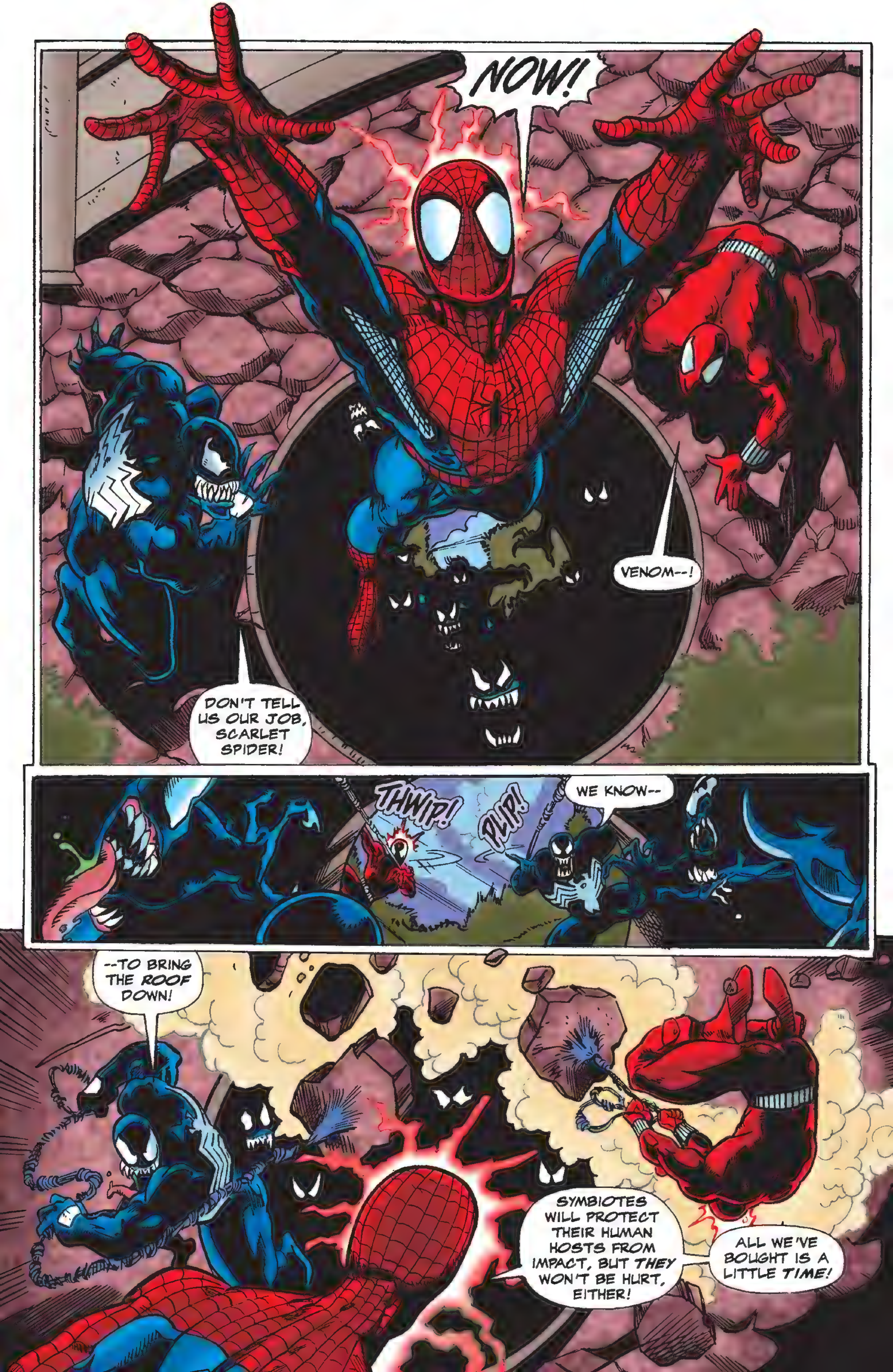
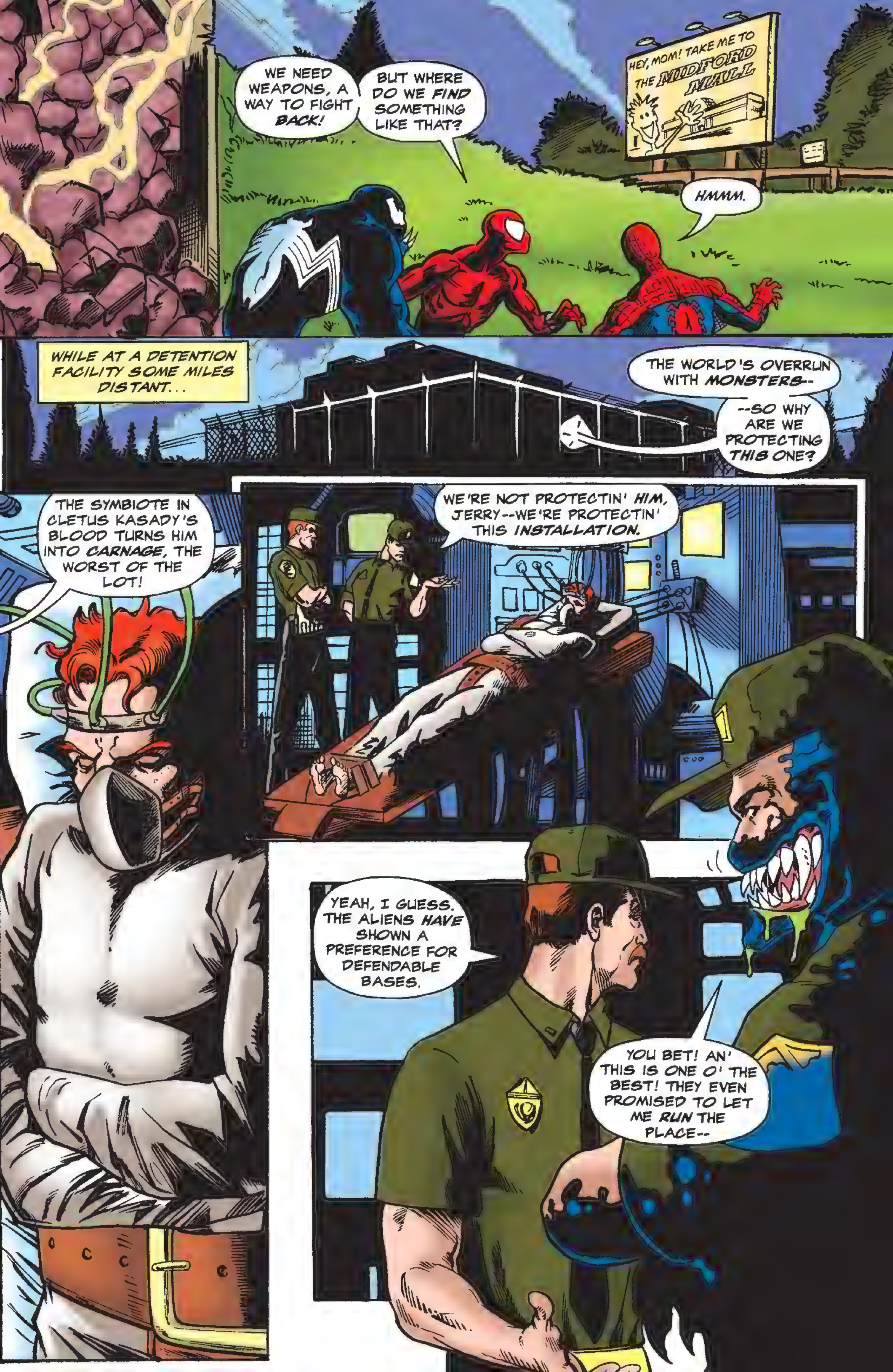
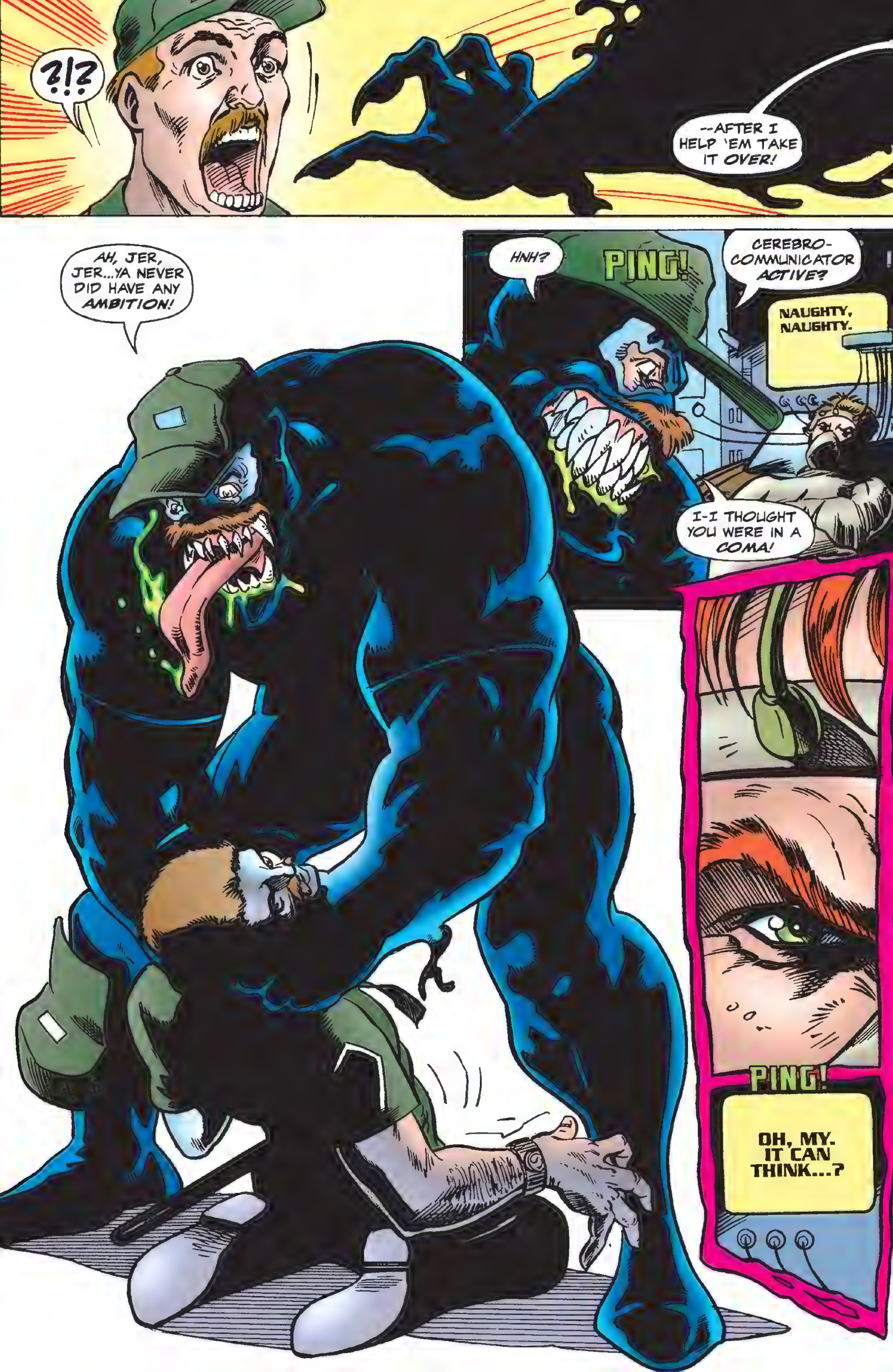
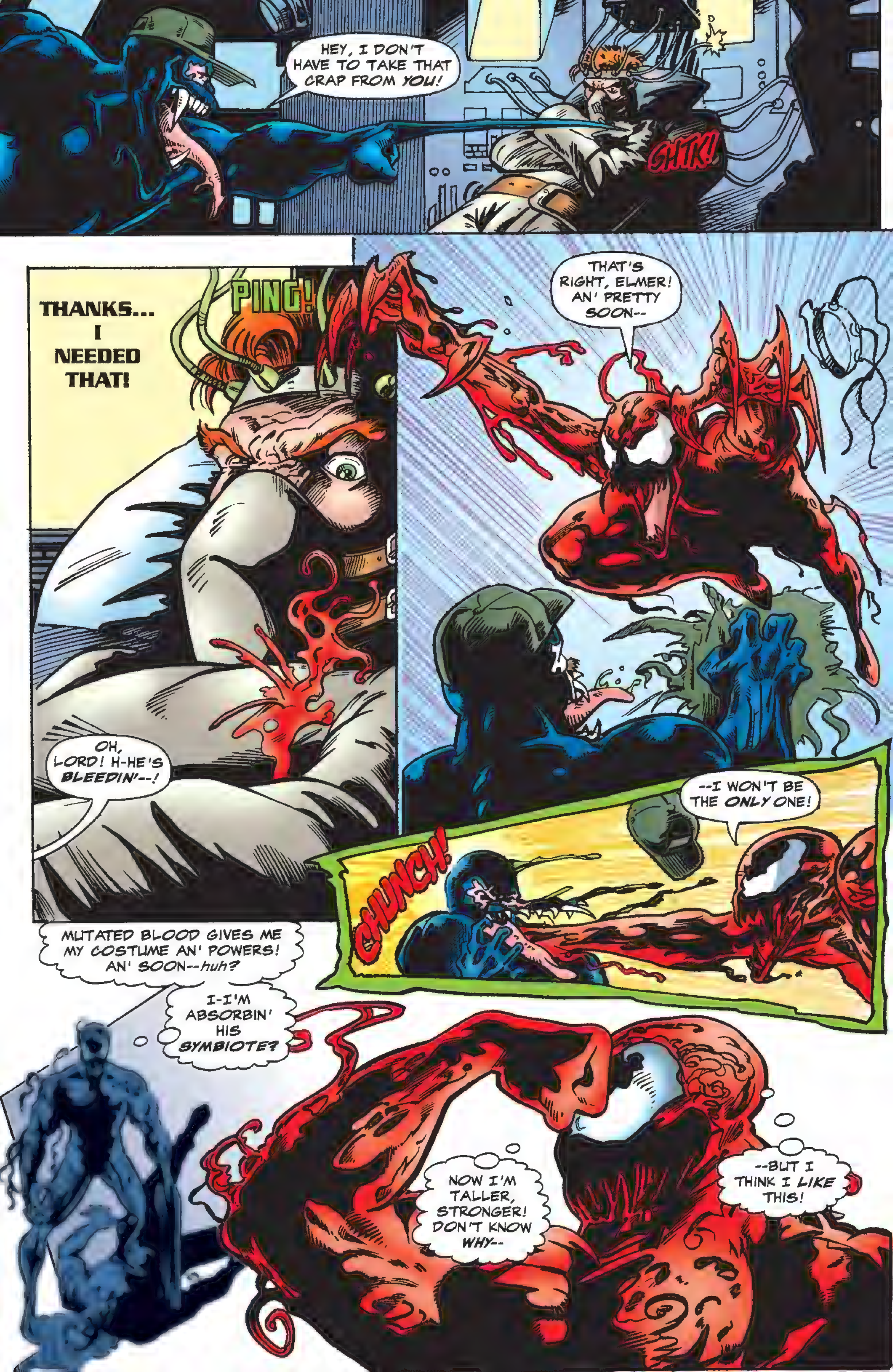

EASY, MARY JANE! S-STAY CALM!
PLEASE STAND BY TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES
TIME
THIS WEEK
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BE A VICTIM!
AT LEAST, NOT WITHOUT A *FIGHT!*
BETTER DIG UP SOME CANDLES-- ELECTRICITY COULD GO AT ANY SECOND!
I JUST WISH *PETER* WAS HERE!
I KNOW HE'S TRYING TO HELP, BUT... WHAT IF HE DOESN'T COME *BACK?*
WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO ME, TO OUR *BABY,* IF--*hnh?* WHAT'S THIS?
CIGARETTES? THOUGHT I THREW THEM ALL OUT WHEN I QUIT SMOKING! THEY SMELL...
...*sniff...*
...GREAT!
SMOKES
OH, PETER! WHY DID YOU EVER HAVE TO BECOME--

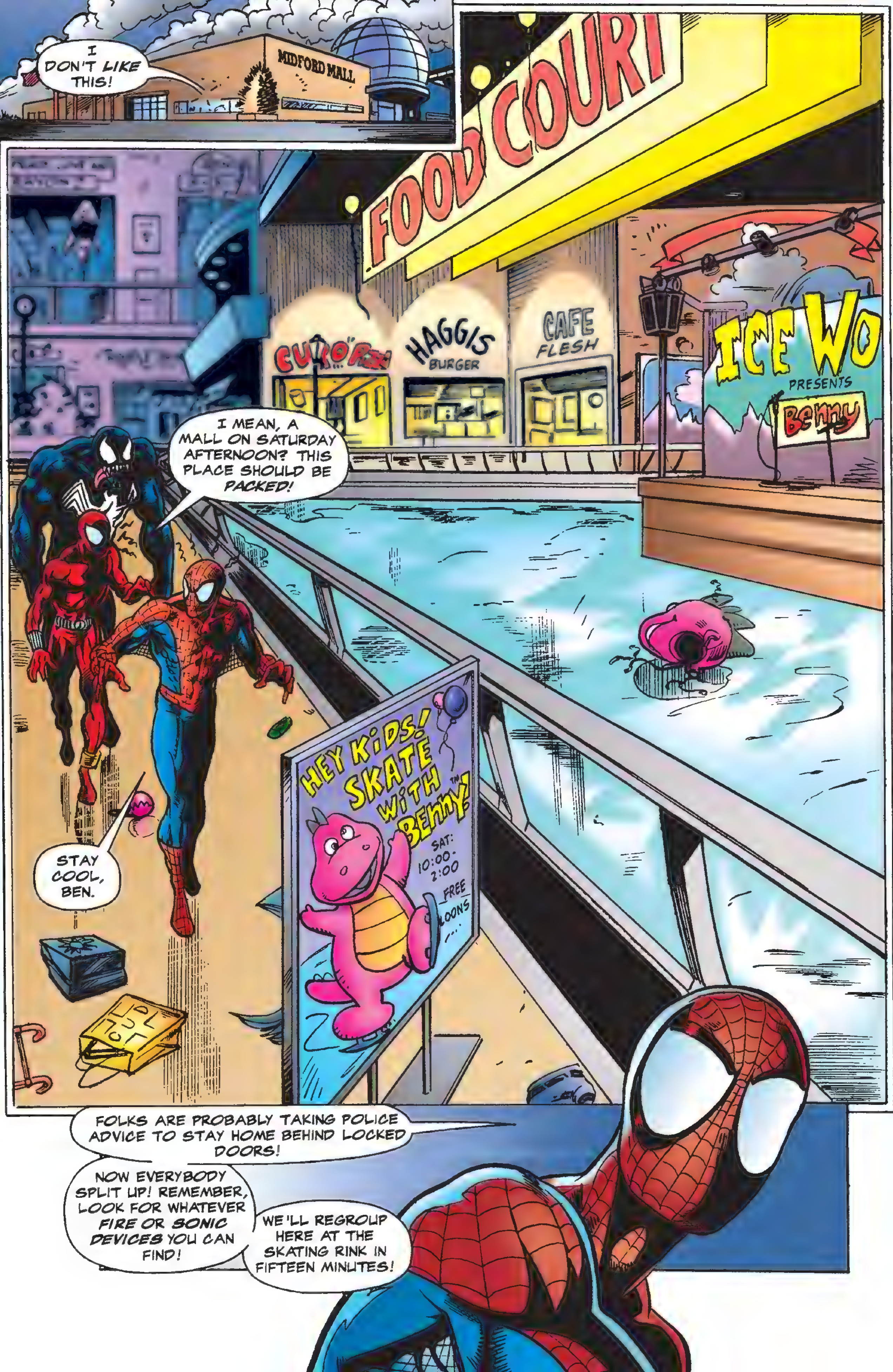

"--SPIDER-MAN?!"
CRIPES! I'VE HAD *NIGHTMARES* I'VE ENJOYED MORE THAN THIS!
UPSTATE NEW YORK.
MY ONLY PRAYER IS TO TIME THINGS JUUUST RIGHT!
SYMBIOTIC MONSTERS ARE GAINING!
THIS IS GONNA BE CLOSE...!

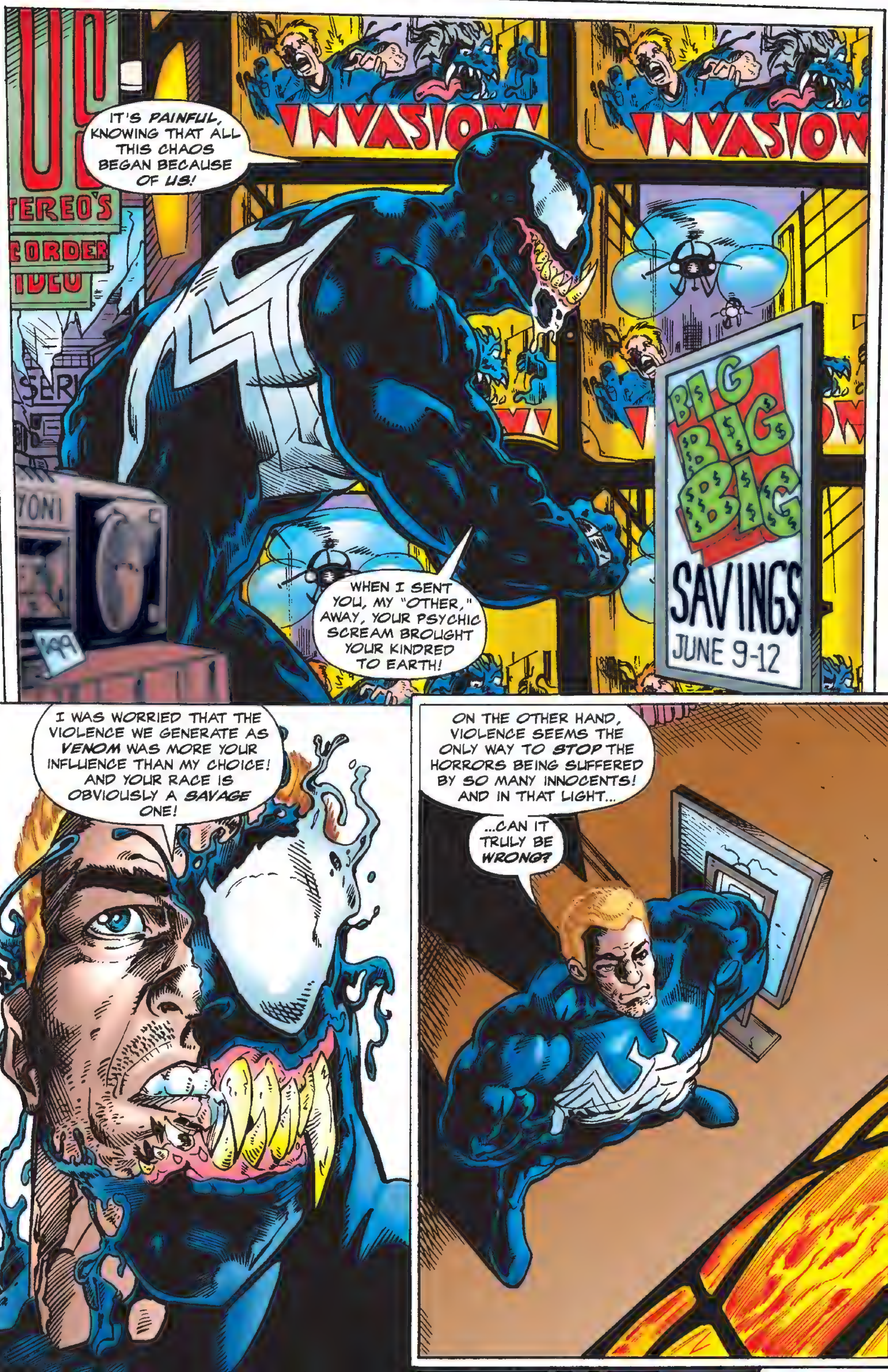

NOW!
VENOM--!
DON'T TELL US OUR JOB, SCARLET SPIDER!
THWIP!
PLIP!
WE KNOW--
--TO BRING THE *ROOF* DOWN!
SYMBIOTES WILL PROTECT THEIR HUMAN HOSTS FROM IMPACT, BUT *THEY* WON'T BE HURT, EITHER!
ALL WE'VE BOUGHT IS A LITTLE *TIME!*

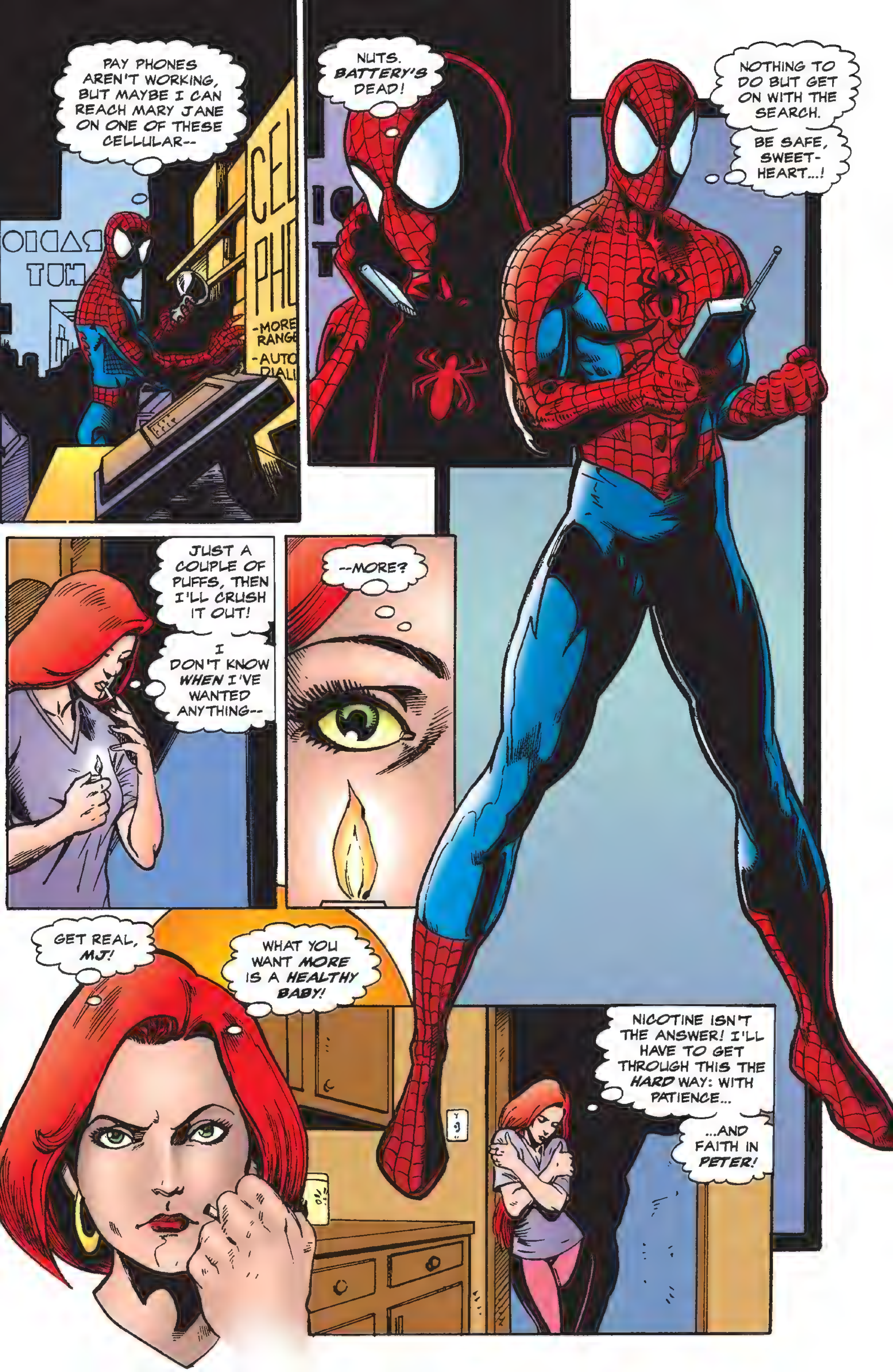

WE NEED WEAPONS, A WAY TO FIGHT *BACK!*
BUT WHERE DO WE *FIND* SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
HEY, MOM! TAKE ME TO THE MIDFORD MALL
HMMM.
WHILE AT A DETENTION FACILITY SOME MILES DISTANT...
THE WORLD'S OVERRUN WITH *MONSTERS*--
--SO WHY ARE WE PROTECTING *THIS* ONE?
THE SYMBIOTE IN CLETUS KASADY'S BLOOD TURNS HIM INTO *CARNAGE*, THE WORST OF THE LOT!
WE'RE NOT PROTECTIN' *HIM*, JERRY--WE'RE PROTECTIN' THIS *INSTALLATION*.
YEAH, I GUESS. THE ALIENS *HAVE* SHOWN A PREFERENCE FOR DEFENDABLE BASES.
YOU BET! AN' THIS IS ONE O' THE BEST! THEY EVEN PROMISED TO LET ME *RUN* THE PLACE--

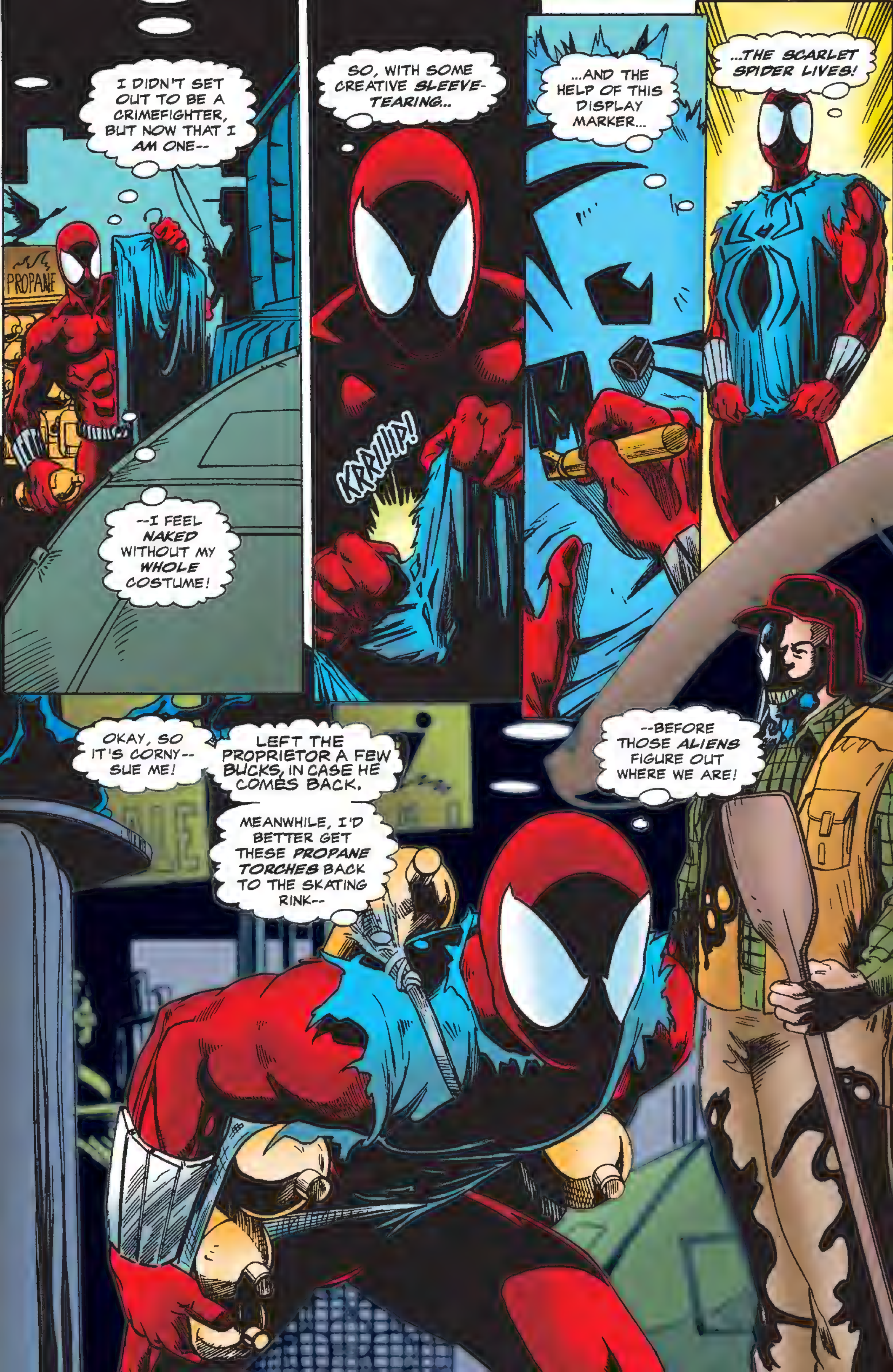

?!?
--AFTER I HELP 'EM TAKE IT *OVER!*
AH, JER, JER...YA NEVER DID HAVE ANY *AMBITION!*
HNH?
PING!
CEREBRO-COMMUNICATOR *ACTIVE?*
NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY.
I-I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN A *COMA!*
PING!
OH, MY. IT CAN THINK...?

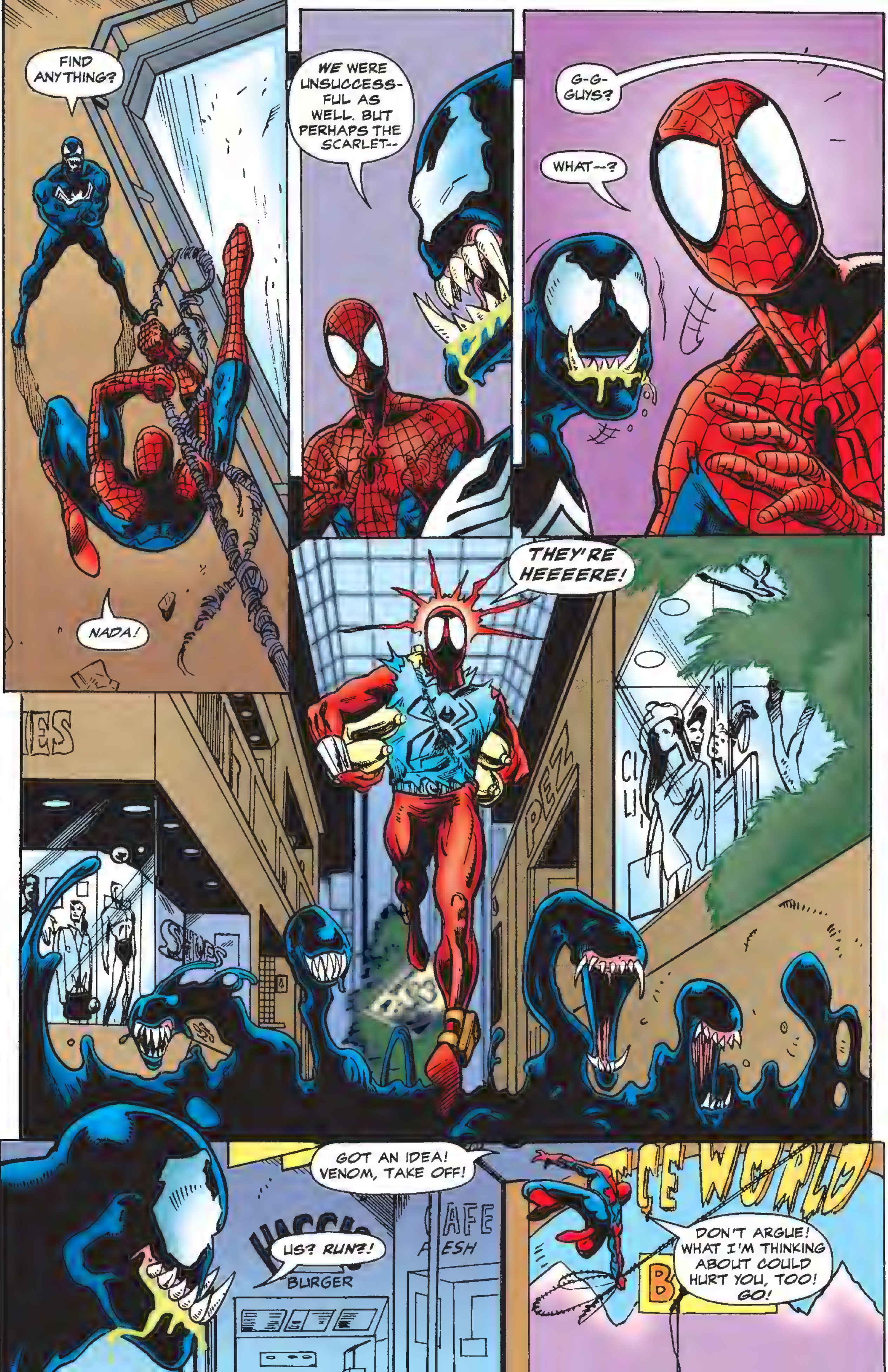

HEY, I DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THAT CRAP FROM *YOU!*
SHTK!
THANKS... I NEEDED THAT!
PING!
OH, LORD! H-HE'S *BLEEDIN'*--!
THAT'S RIGHT, ELMER! AN' PRETTY SOON--
--I WON'T BE THE *ONLY* ONE!
CHUNCH!
MUTATED BLOOD GIVES ME MY COSTUME AN' POWERS! AN' SOON--*huh?*
I-I'M ABSORBIN' HIS *SYMBIOTE?*
NOW I'M TALLER, STRONGER! DON'T KNOW *WHY*--
--BUT I THINK I *LIKE* THIS!

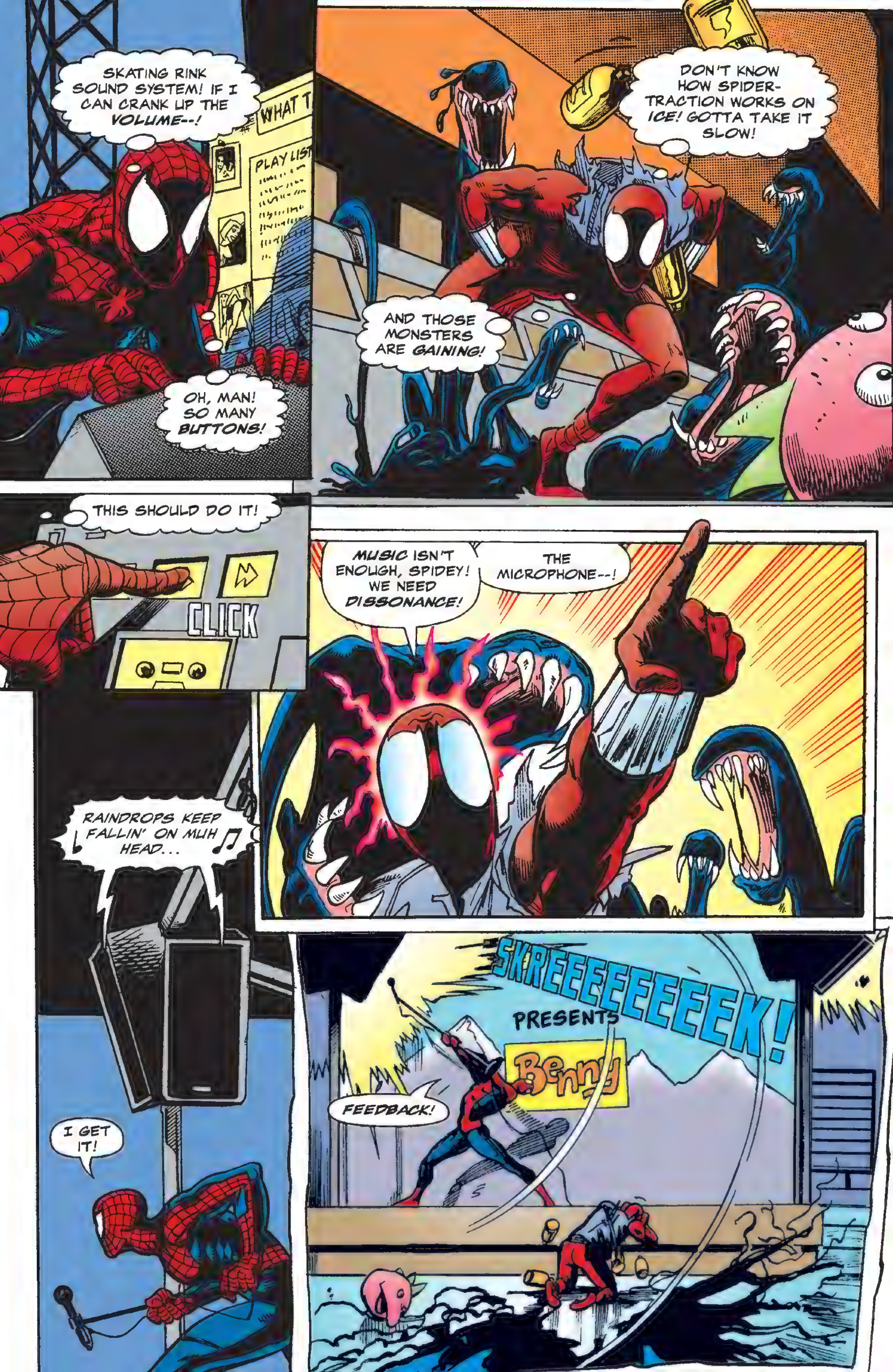

MIDFORD MALL
I DON'T LIKE THIS!
FOOD COURT
HAGGIS BURGER
CAFE FLESH
ICE WO
PRESENTS Benny
I MEAN, A MALL ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON? THIS PLACE SHOULD BE *PACKED!*
STAY COOL, BEN.
HEY KIDS! SKATE WITH Benny!™
SAT: 10:00-2:00
FREE
LOONS
FOLKS ARE PROBABLY TAKING POLICE ADVICE TO STAY HOME BEHIND LOCKED DOORS!
NOW EVERYBODY SPLIT UP! REMEMBER, LOOK FOR WHATEVER *FIRE OR SONIC DEVICES* YOU CAN FIND!
WE'LL REGROUP HERE AT THE SKATING RINK IN FIFTEEN MINUTES!

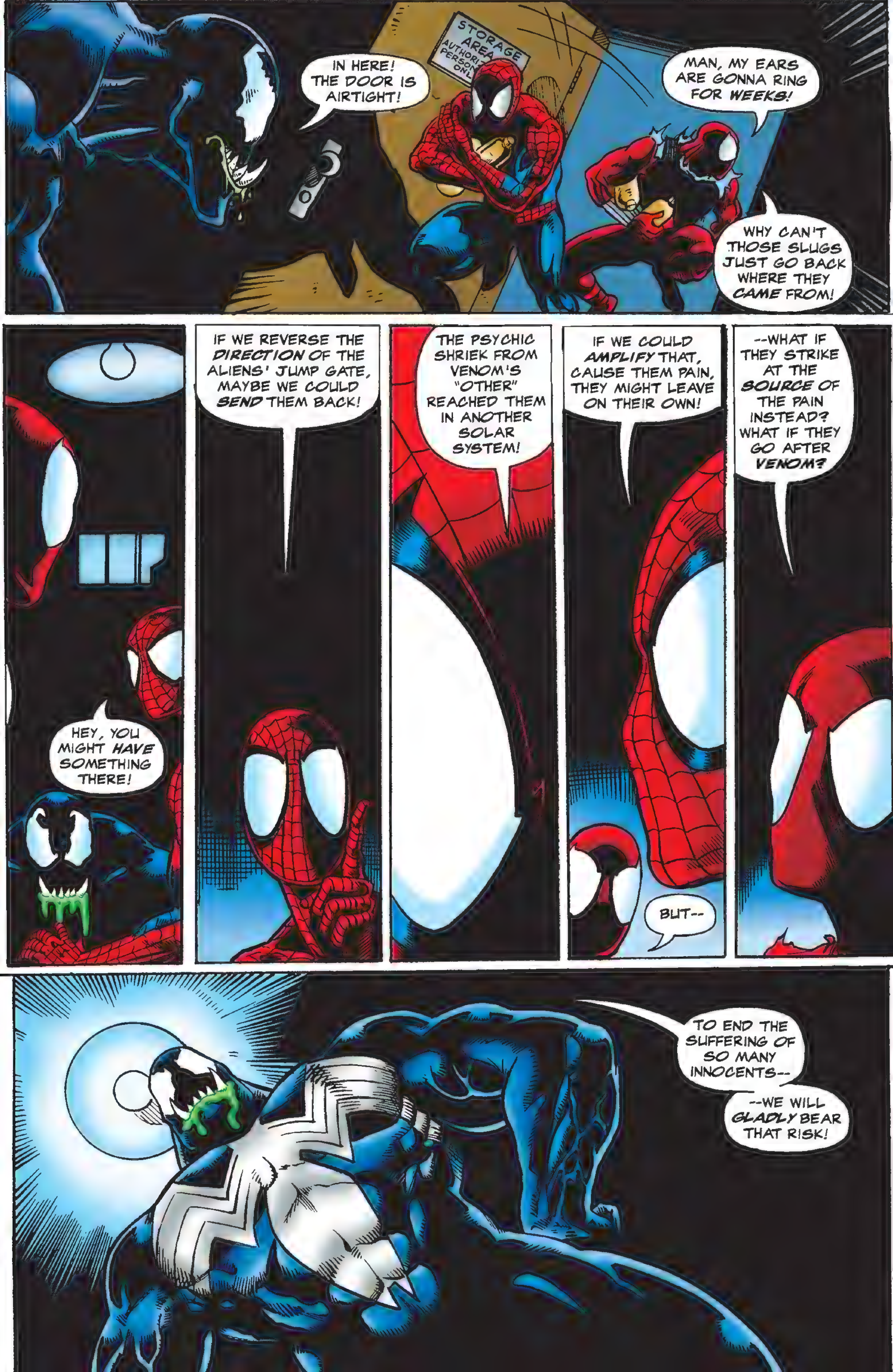

INVASION!
IT'S PAINFUL, KNOWING THAT ALL THIS CHAOS BEGAN BECAUSE OF US!
WHEN I SENT YOU, MY "OTHER," AWAY, YOUR PSYCHIC SCREAM BROUGHT YOUR KINDRED TO EARTH!
BIG BIG BIG SAVINGS JUNE 9-12
I WAS WORRIED THAT THE VIOLENCE WE GENERATE AS VENOM WAS MORE YOUR INFLUENCE THAN MY CHOICE! AND YOUR RACE IS OBVIOUSLY A SAVAGE ONE!
ON THE OTHER HAND, VIOLENCE SEEMS THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THE HORRORS BEING SUFFERED BY SO MANY INNOCENTS! AND IN THAT LIGHT...
...CAN IT TRULY BE WRONG?

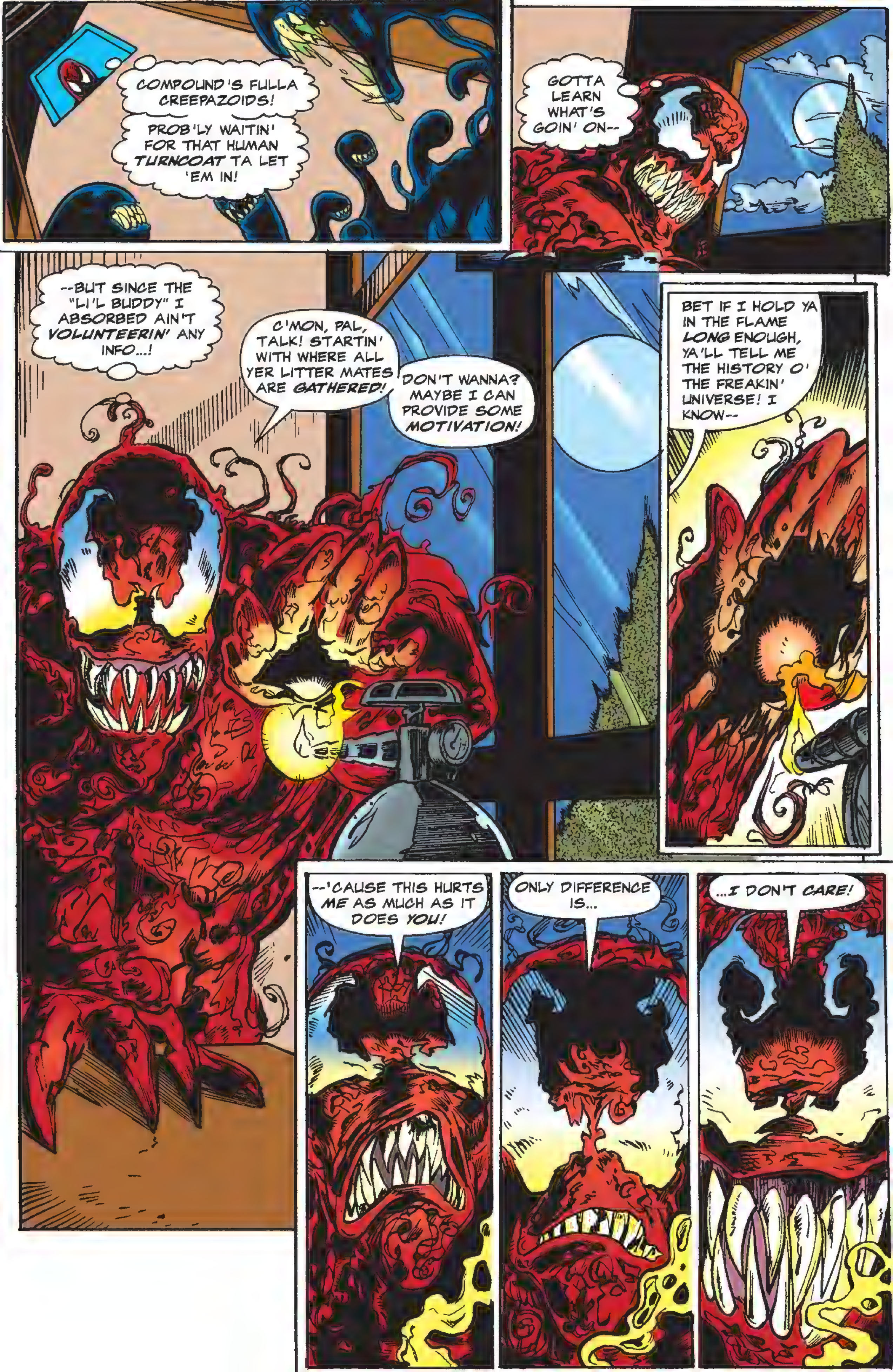

PAY PHONES AREN'T WORKING, BUT MAYBE I CAN REACH MARY JANE ON ONE OF THESE CELLULAR--
CEL PHO
-MORE RANGE
-AUTO DIALI
NUTS. *BATTERY'S* DEAD!
NOTHING TO DO BUT GET ON WITH THE SEARCH.
BE SAFE, SWEET-HEART...!
JUST A COUPLE OF PUFFS, THEN I'LL CRUSH IT OUT!
I DON'T KNOW *WHEN* I'VE WANTED ANYTHING--
--MORE?
GET REAL, *MJ!*
WHAT YOU WANT *MORE* IS A *HEALTHY BABY!*
NICOTINE ISN'T THE ANSWER! I'LL HAVE TO GET THROUGH THIS THE *HARD* WAY: WITH PATIENCE...
...AND FAITH IN *PETER!*

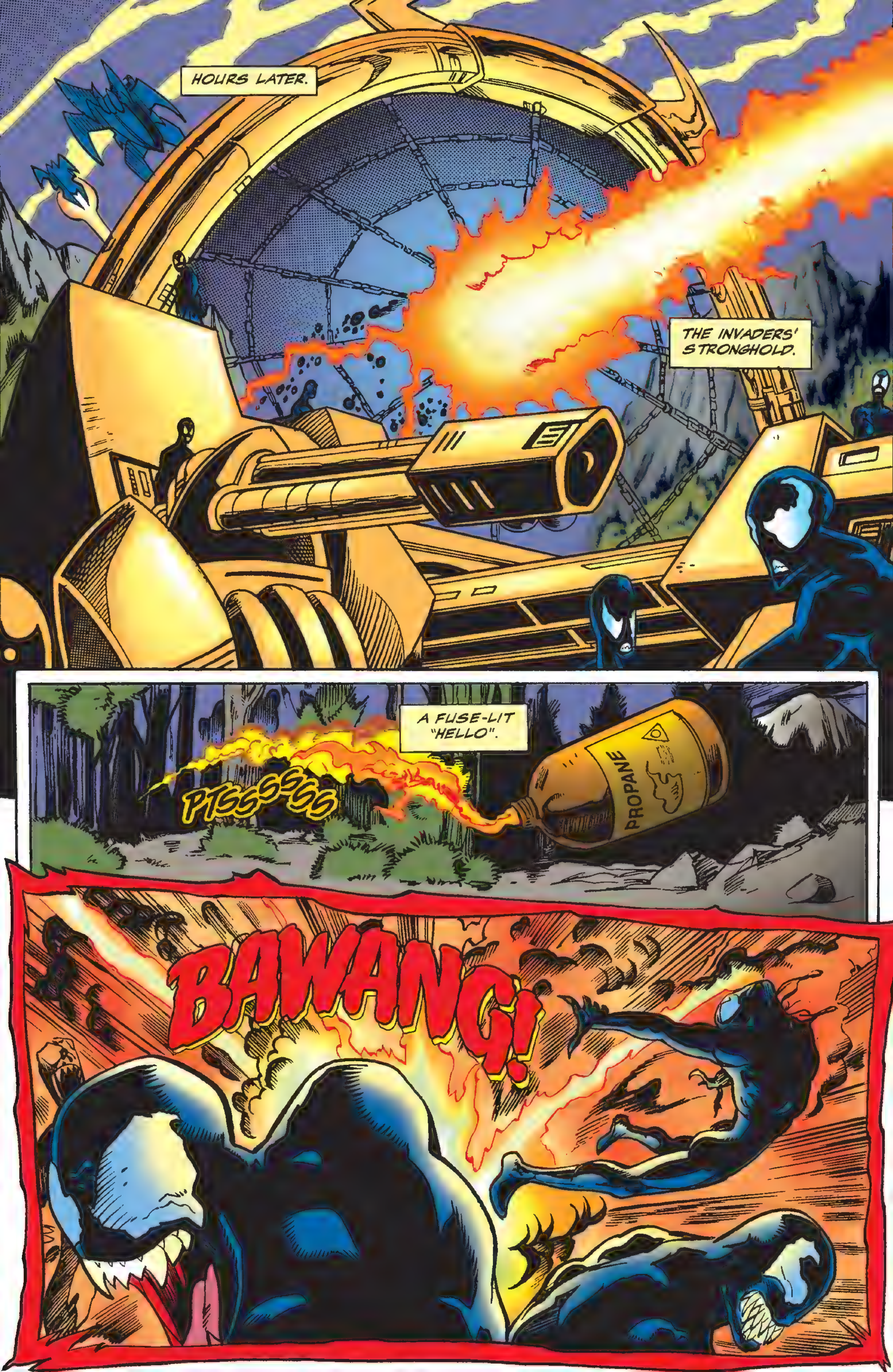

PROPANE
I DIDN'T SET OUT TO BE A CRIMEFIGHTER, BUT NOW THAT I *AM* ONE--
--I FEEL *NAKED* WITHOUT MY *WHOLE* COSTUME!
SO, WITH SOME CREATIVE *SLEEVE-TEARING*...
KRRIIIP!
...AND THE HELP OF THIS DISPLAY MARKER...
...THE SCARLET SPIDER LIVES!
OKAY, SO IT'S CORNY-- SUE ME!
LEFT THE PROPRIETOR A FEW BUCKS, IN CASE HE COMES BACK.
MEANWHILE, I'D BETTER GET THESE *PROPANE TORCHES* BACK TO THE SKATING RINK--
--BEFORE THOSE *ALIENS* FIGURE OUT WHERE WE ARE!

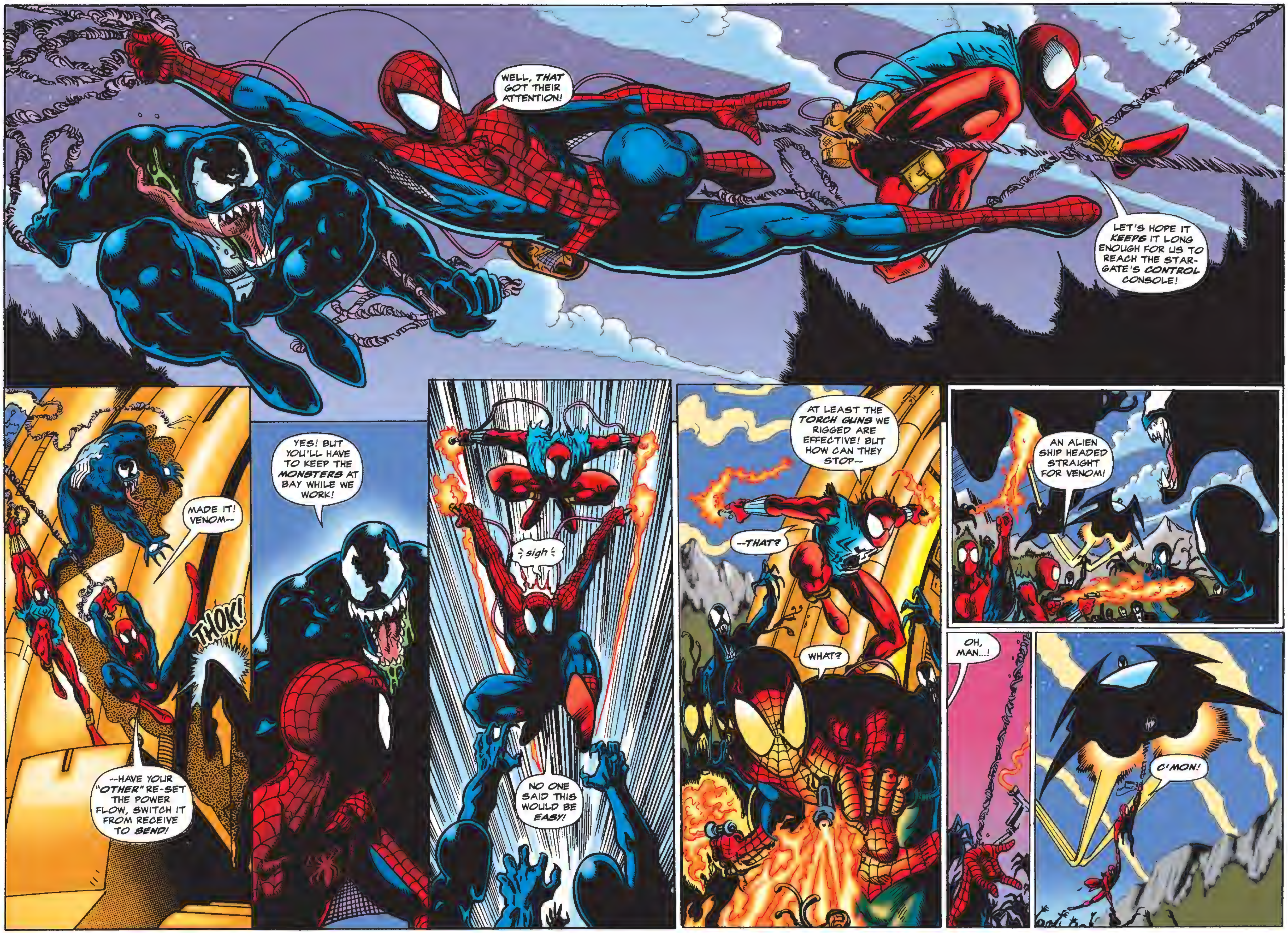

FIND ANYTHING?
NADA!
WE WERE UNSUCCESSFUL AS WELL. BUT PERHAPS THE SCARLET--
G-G-GUYS?
WHAT--?
THEY'RE HEEEEERE!
ES
SHOES
PEZ
GOT AN IDEA! VENOM, TAKE OFF!
US? RUN?!
BURGER
CAFE
ESH
ICE WORLD
B
DON'T ARGUE! WHAT I'M THINKING ABOUT COULD HURT YOU, TOO! GO!

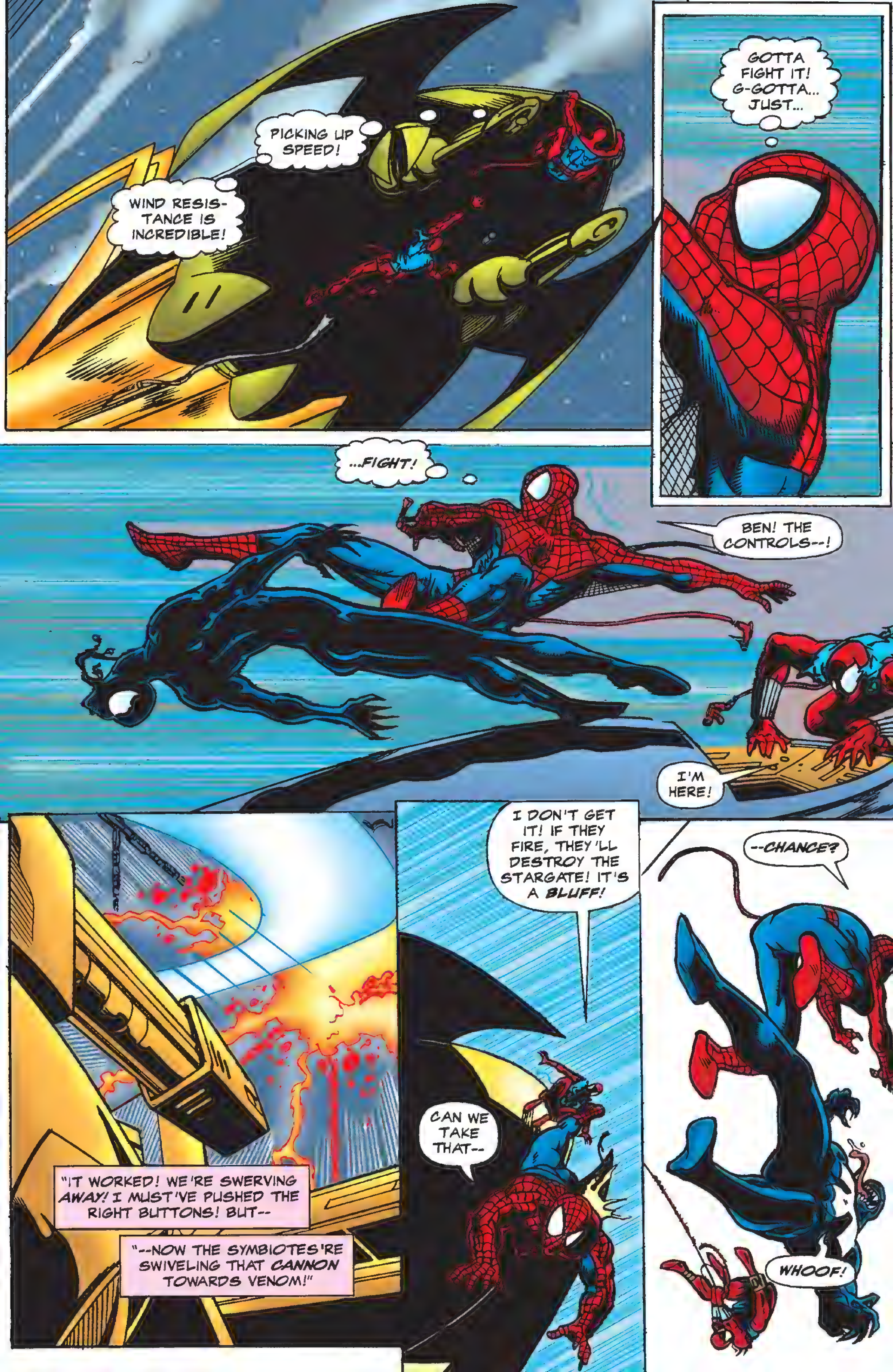

SKATING RINK SOUND SYSTEM! IF I CAN CRANK UP THE *VOLUME*--!
WHAT T
PLAY LIST
OH, MAN! SO MANY *BUTTONS!*
DON'T KNOW HOW SPIDER-TRACTION WORKS ON ICE! GOTTA TAKE IT SLOW!
AND THOSE MONSTERS ARE *GAINING!*
THIS SHOULD DO IT!
CLICK
RAINDROPS KEEP FALLIN' ON MUH HEAD... ♪
MUSIC ISN'T ENOUGH, SPIDEY! WE NEED *DISSONANCE!*
THE MICROPHONE--!
I GET IT!
SKREEEEEEEEK!
PRESENTS
Benny
FEEDBACK!

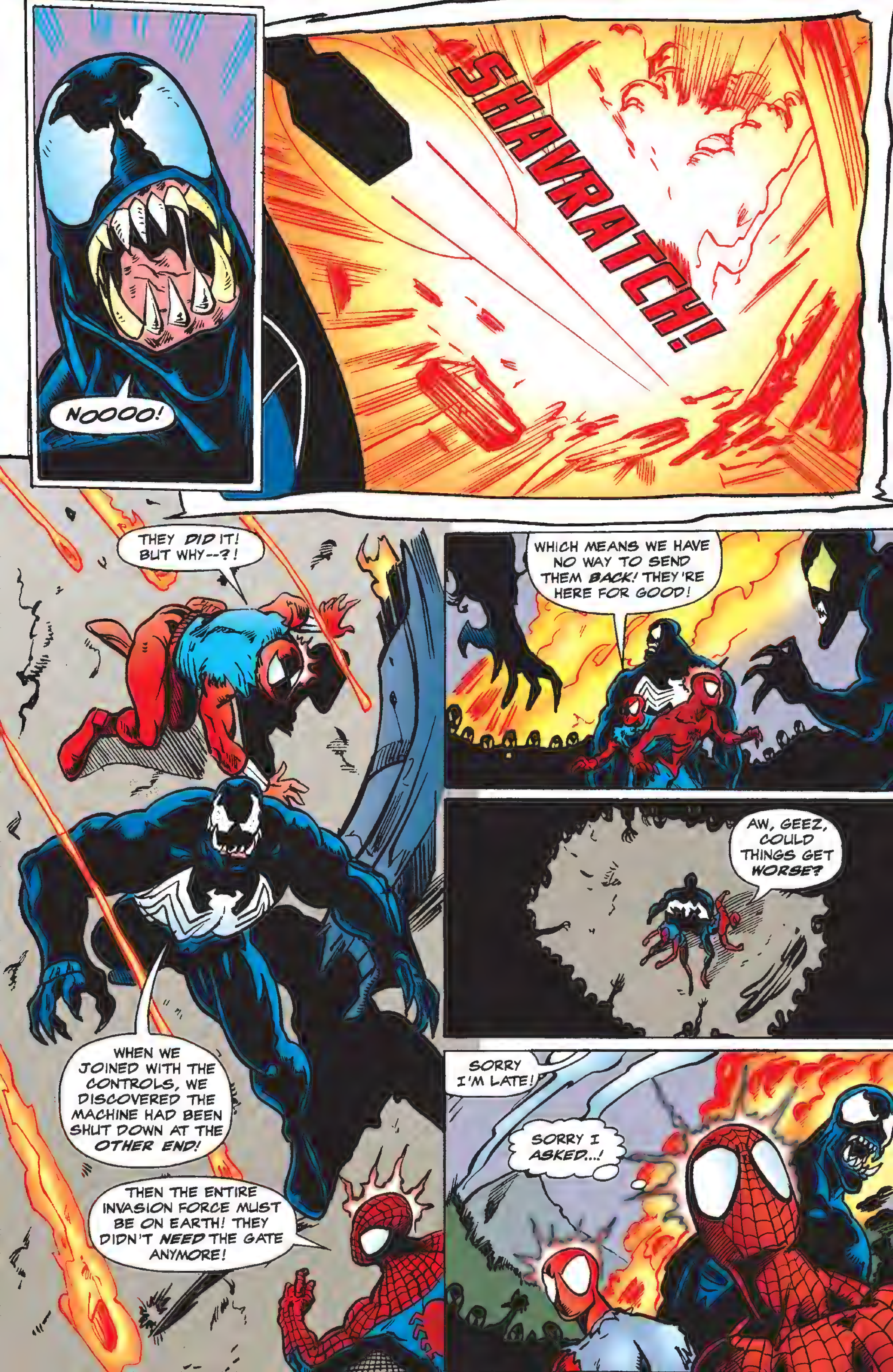

STORAGE AREA
IN HERE! THE DOOR IS AIRTIGHT!
MAN, MY EARS ARE GONNA RING FOR WEEKS!
WHY CAN'T THOSE SLUGS JUST GO BACK WHERE THEY CAME FROM!
HEY, YOU MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING THERE!
IF WE REVERSE THE DIRECTION OF THE ALIENS' JUMP GATE, MAYBE WE COULD SEND THEM BACK!
THE PSYCHIC SHRIEK FROM VENOM'S "OTHER" REACHED THEM IN ANOTHER SOLAR SYSTEM!
IF WE COULD AMPLIFY THAT, CAUSE THEM PAIN, THEY MIGHT LEAVE ON THEIR OWN!
BUT--
--WHAT IF THEY STRIKE AT THE SOURCE OF THE PAIN INSTEAD? WHAT IF THEY GO AFTER VENOM?
TO END THE SUFFERING OF SO MANY INNOCENTS--
--WE WILL GLADLY BEAR THAT RISK!

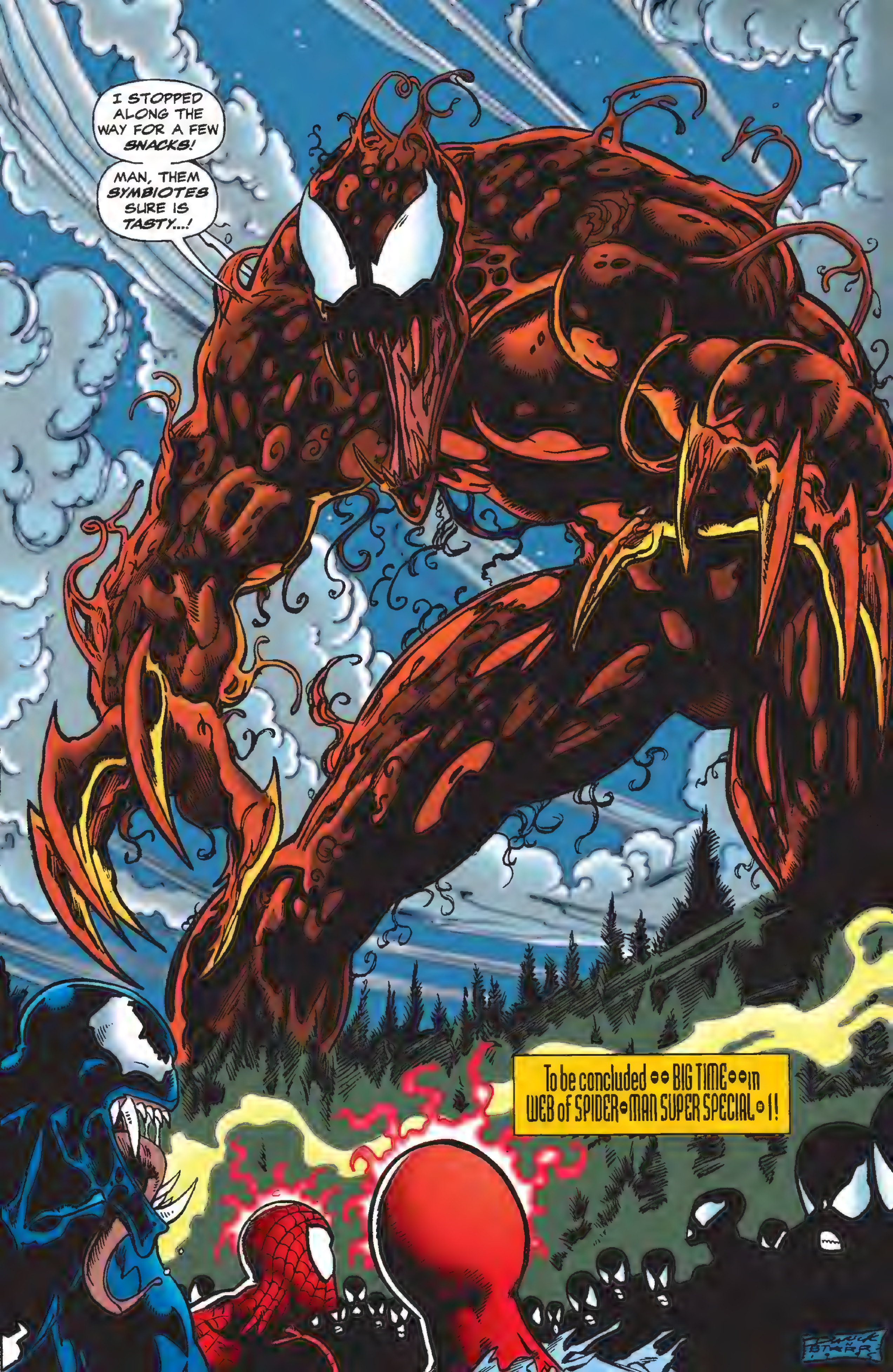

COMPOUND'S FULLA CREEPAZOIDS!
PROB'LY WAITIN' FOR THAT HUMAN *TURNCOAT* TA LET 'EM IN!
GOTTA LEARN WHAT'S GOIN' ON--
--BUT SINCE THE "LI'L BUDDY" I ABSORBED AIN'T *VOLUNTEERIN'* ANY INFO...!
C'MON, PAL, TALK! STARTIN' WITH WHERE ALL YER LITTER MATES ARE *GATHERED!*
DON'T WANNA? MAYBE I CAN PROVIDE SOME *MOTIVATION!*
BET IF I HOLD YA IN THE FLAME *LONG* ENOUGH, YA'LL TELL ME THE HISTORY O' THE FREAKIN' UNIVERSE! I KNOW--
--'CAUSE THIS HURTS *ME* AS MUCH AS IT DOES *YOU!*
ONLY DIFFERENCE IS...
...I DON'T *CARE!*

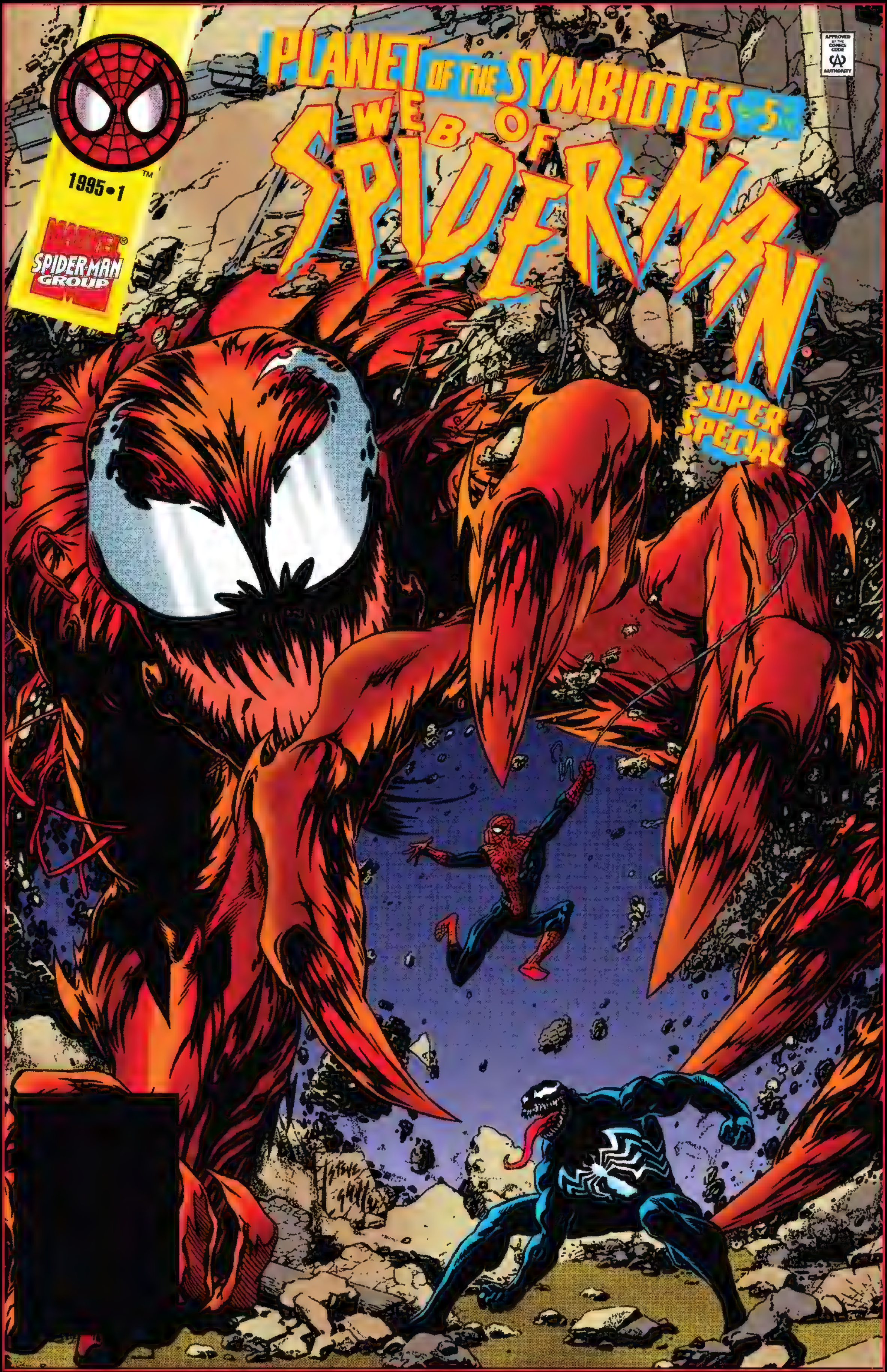

HOURS LATER.
THE INVADERS' STRONGHOLD.
A FUSE-LIT "HELLO".
PTSSSSSS
PROPANE
BAWANG!


WELL, *THAT* GOT THEIR ATTENTION!
LET'S HOPE IT *KEEPS* IT LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO REACH THE STAR-GATE'S *CONTROL* CONSOLE!
MADE IT! VENOM--
THOK!
--HAVE YOUR "*OTHER*" RE-SET THE POWER FLOW, SWITCH IT FROM RECEIVE TO *SEND!*
YES! BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP THE *MONSTERS* AT BAY WHILE WE WORK!
sigh
NO ONE SAID THIS WOULD BE *EASY!*
AT LEAST THE *TORCH GUNS* WE RIGGED ARE EFFECTIVE! BUT HOW CAN THEY STOP--
--*THAT?*
WHAT?
AN ALIEN SHIP HEADED STRAIGHT FOR VENOM!
OH, MAN...!
C'MON!


PICKING UP SPEED!
WIND RESISTANCE IS INCREDIBLE!
GOTTA FIGHT IT! G-GOTTA... JUST...
...*FIGHT!*
BEN! THE CONTROLS--!
I'M HERE!
"IT WORKED! WE'RE SWERVING *AWAY!* I MUST'VE PUSHED THE RIGHT BUTTONS! BUT--
"--NOW THE SYMBIOTES'RE SWIVELING THAT *CANNON* TOWARDS VENOM!"
I DON'T GET IT! IF THEY FIRE, THEY'LL DESTROY THE STARGATE! IT'S A *BLUFF!*
CAN WE TAKE THAT--
--*CHANCE?*
WHOOF!


NOOOO!
SHAVRATCH!
THEY *DID* IT! BUT WHY--?!
WHEN WE JOINED WITH THE CONTROLS, WE DISCOVERED THE MACHINE HAD BEEN SHUT DOWN AT THE *OTHER END!*
THEN THE ENTIRE INVASION FORCE MUST BE ON EARTH! THEY DIDN'T *NEED* THE GATE ANYMORE!
WHICH MEANS WE HAVE NO WAY TO SEND THEM *BACK!* THEY'RE HERE FOR GOOD!
AW, GEEZ, COULD THINGS GET *WORSE?*
SORRY I'M LATE!
SORRY I *ASKED...!*


I STOPPED ALONG THE WAY FOR A FEW *SNACKS!*
MAN, THEM *SYMBIOTES* SURE IS *TASTY...!*
To be concluded -- BIG TIME -- in WEB of SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL #1!


PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES 5
WEB OF SPIDER-MAN
SUPER SPECIAL
1995•1
MARVEL
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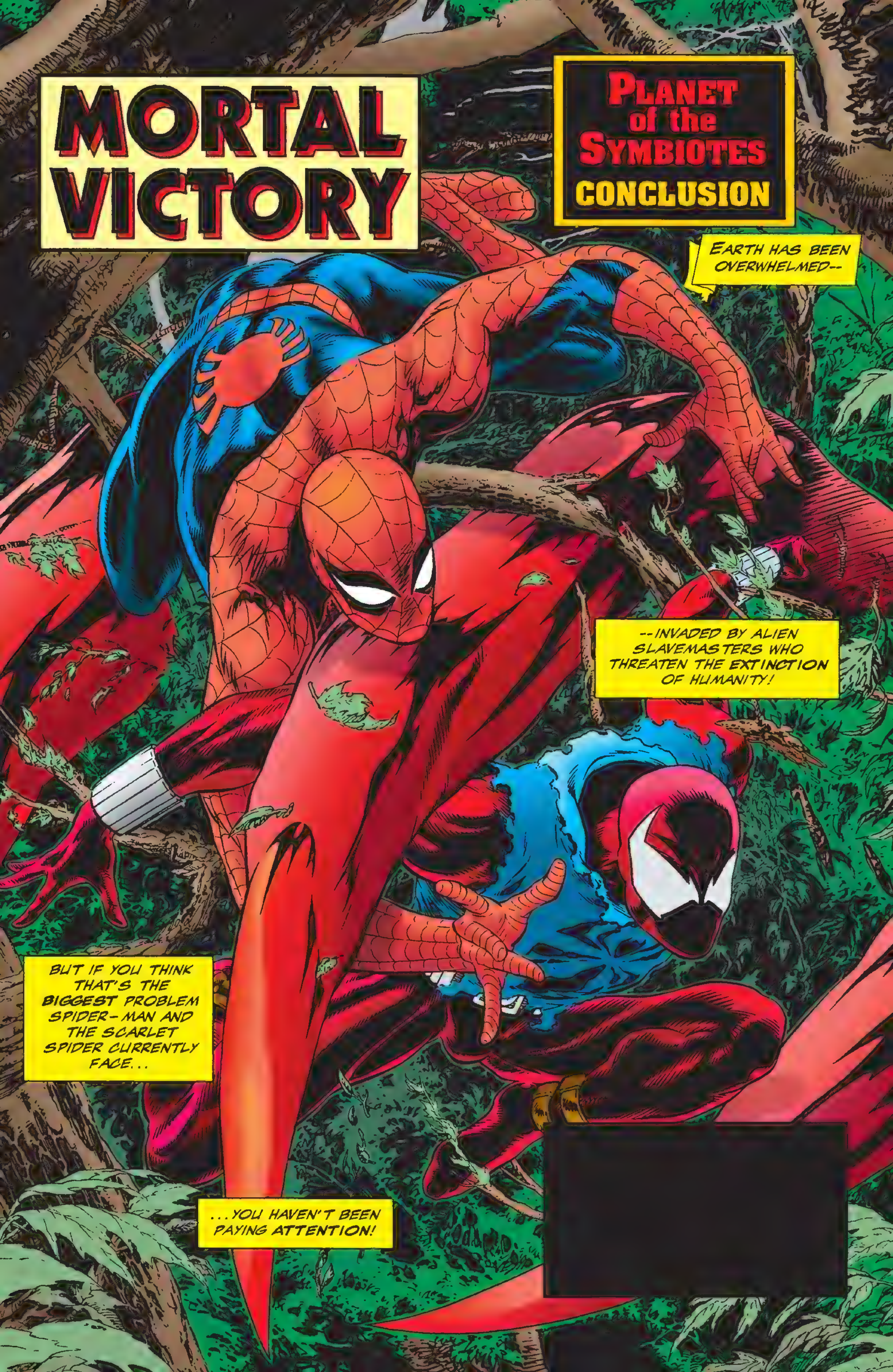
MORTAL VICTORY
PLANET of the SYMBIOTES
CONCLUSION
EARTH HAS BEEN OVERWHELMED--
--INVADED BY ALIEN SLAVEMASTERS WHO THREATEN THE EXTINCTION OF HUMANITY!
BUT IF YOU THINK THAT'S THE BIGGEST PROBLEM SPIDER-MAN AND THE SCARLET SPIDER CURRENTLY FACE...
...YOU HAVEN'T BEEN PAYING ATTENTION!

DAVID MICHELINIE - writer
STEVE LIGHTLE - artist
OAKLEY / N.J.Q. - letterers
MARIANNE LIGHTLE - colorist
TOM BREVOORT - editor
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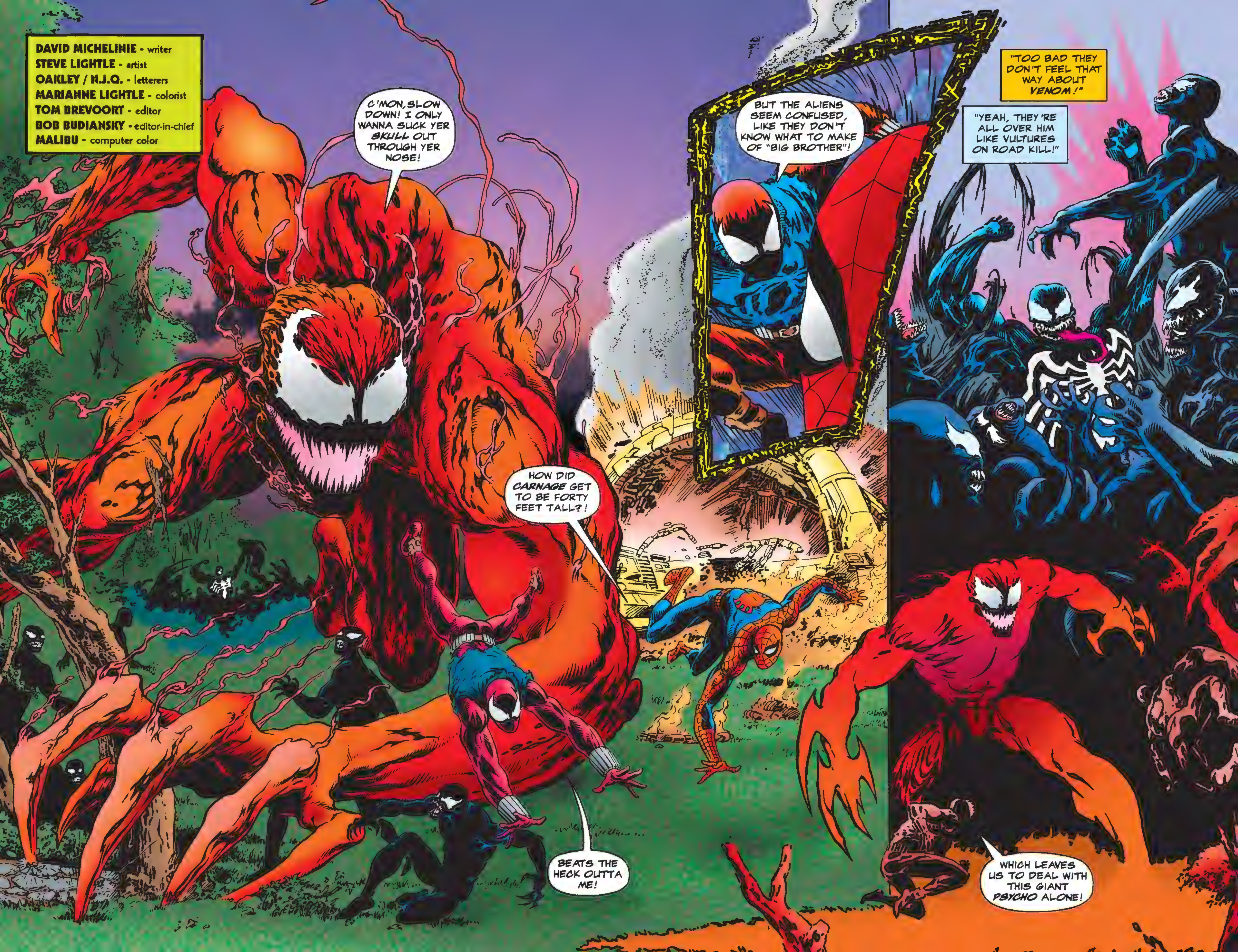
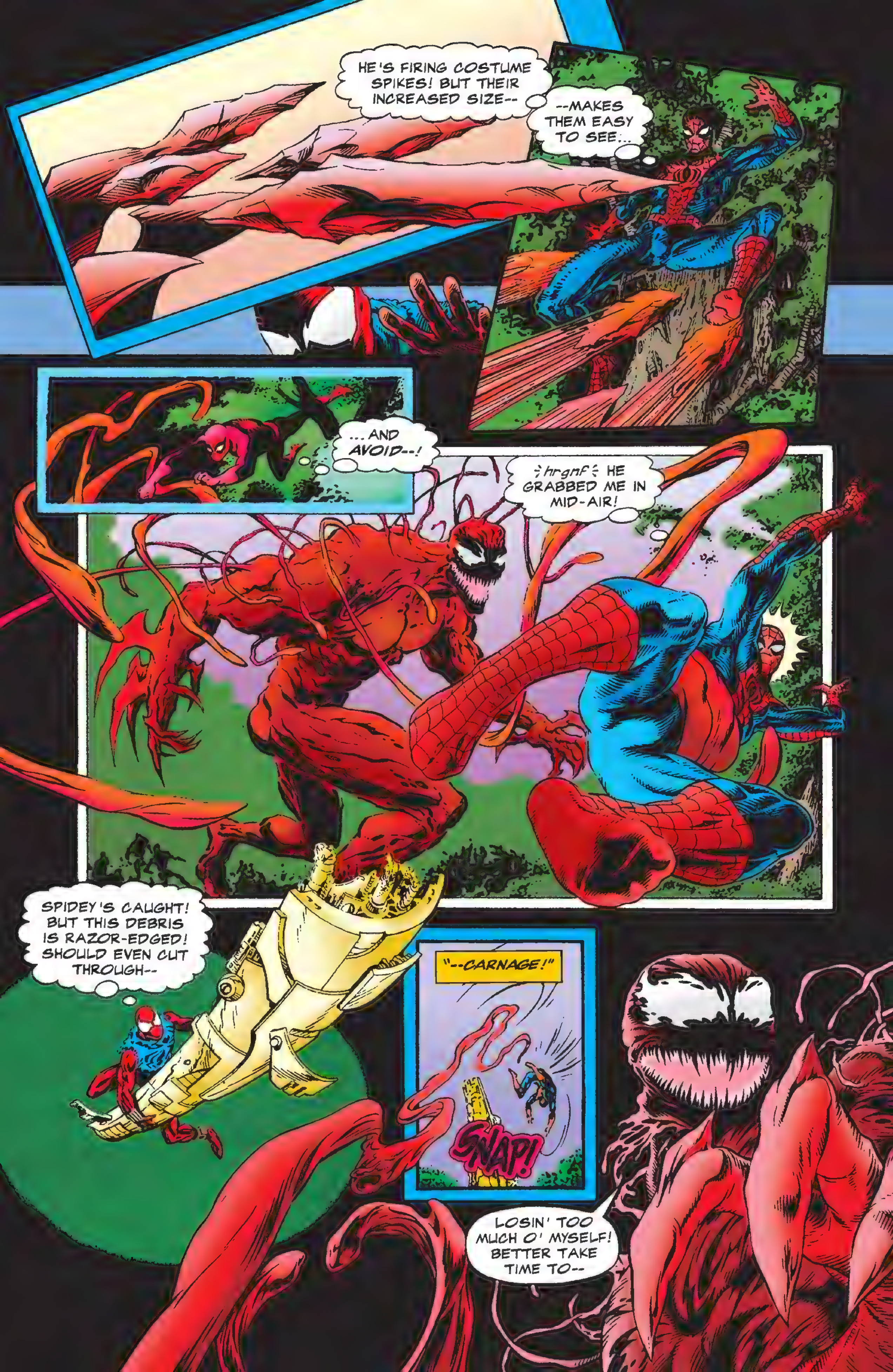
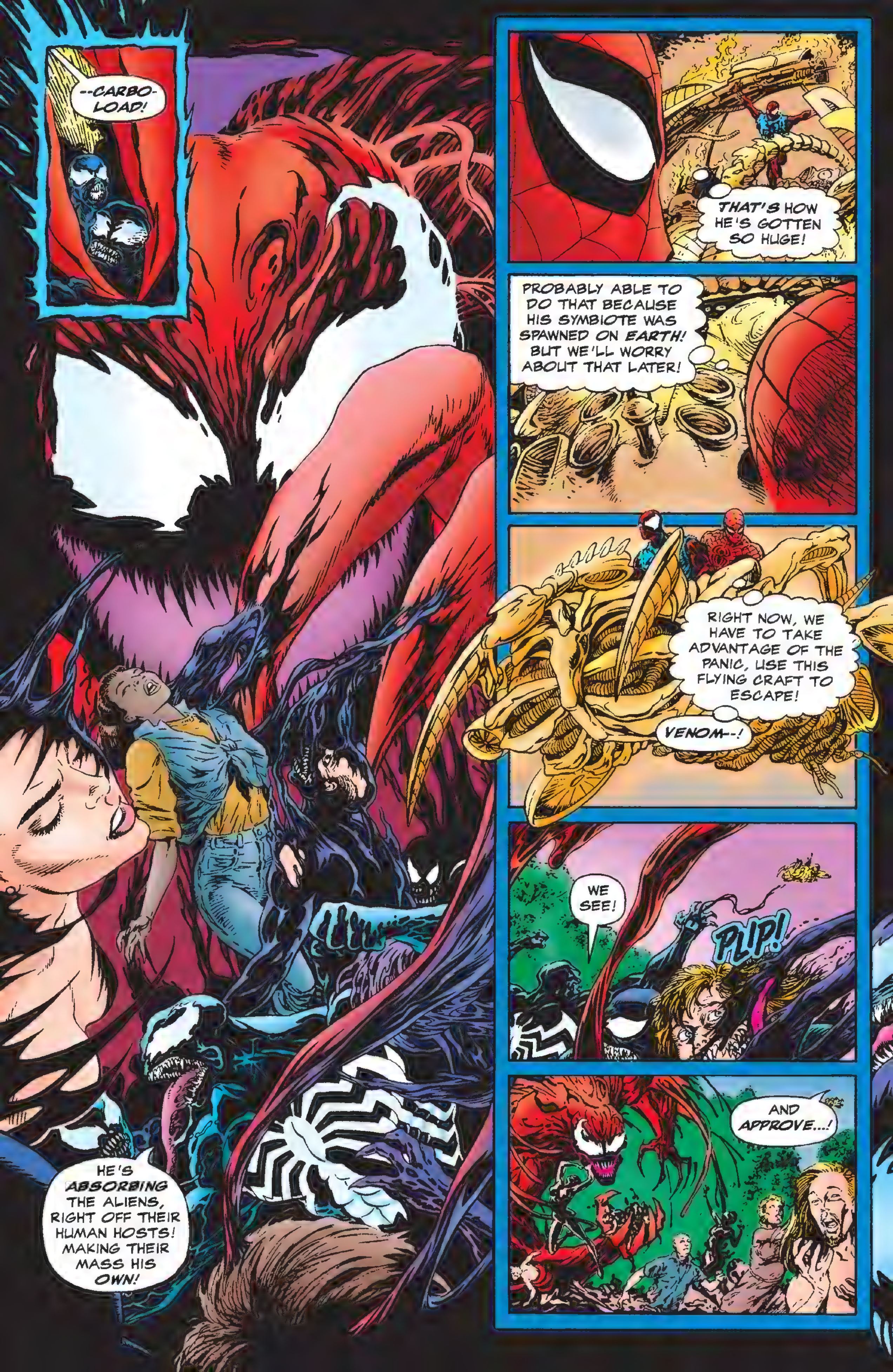
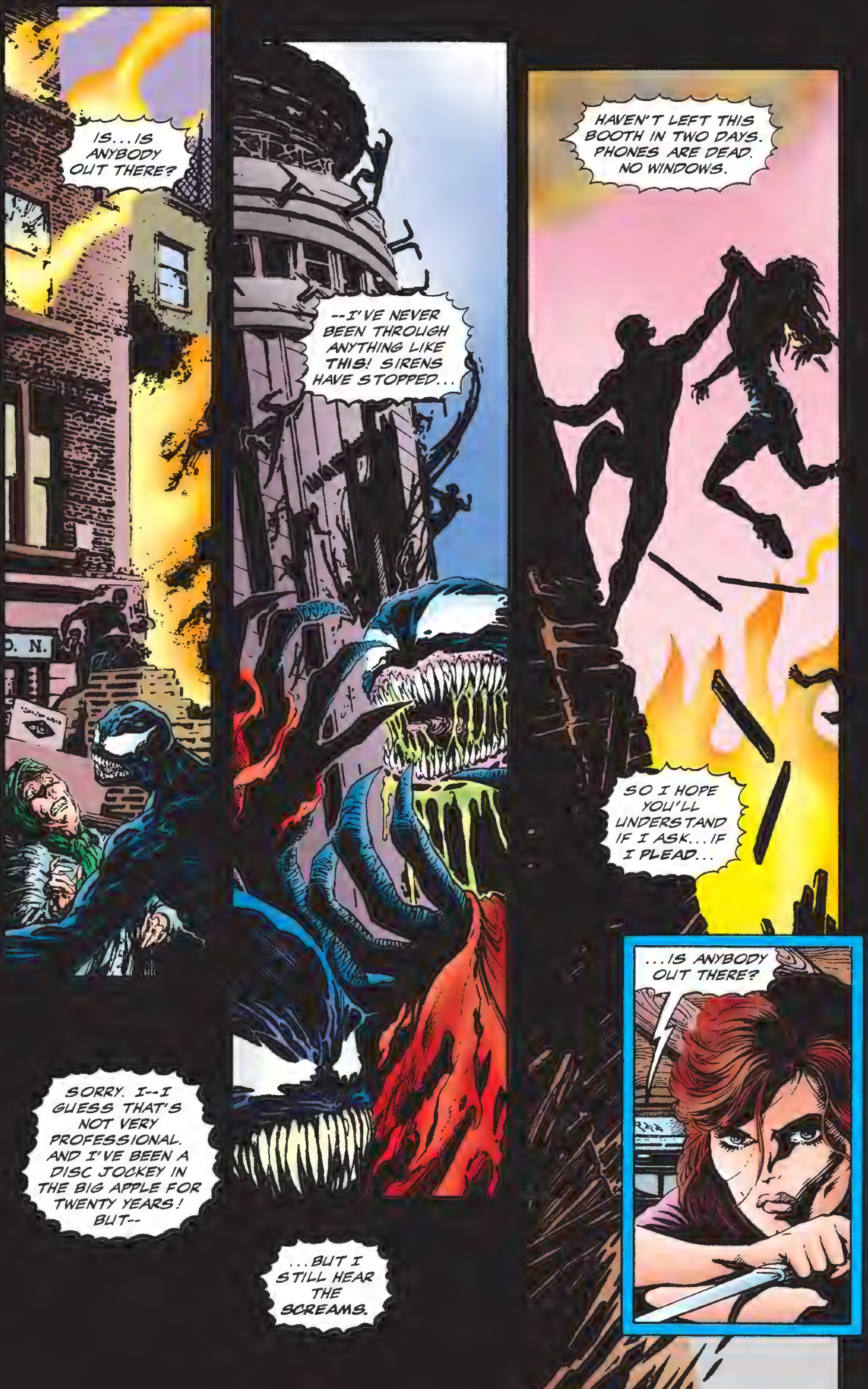
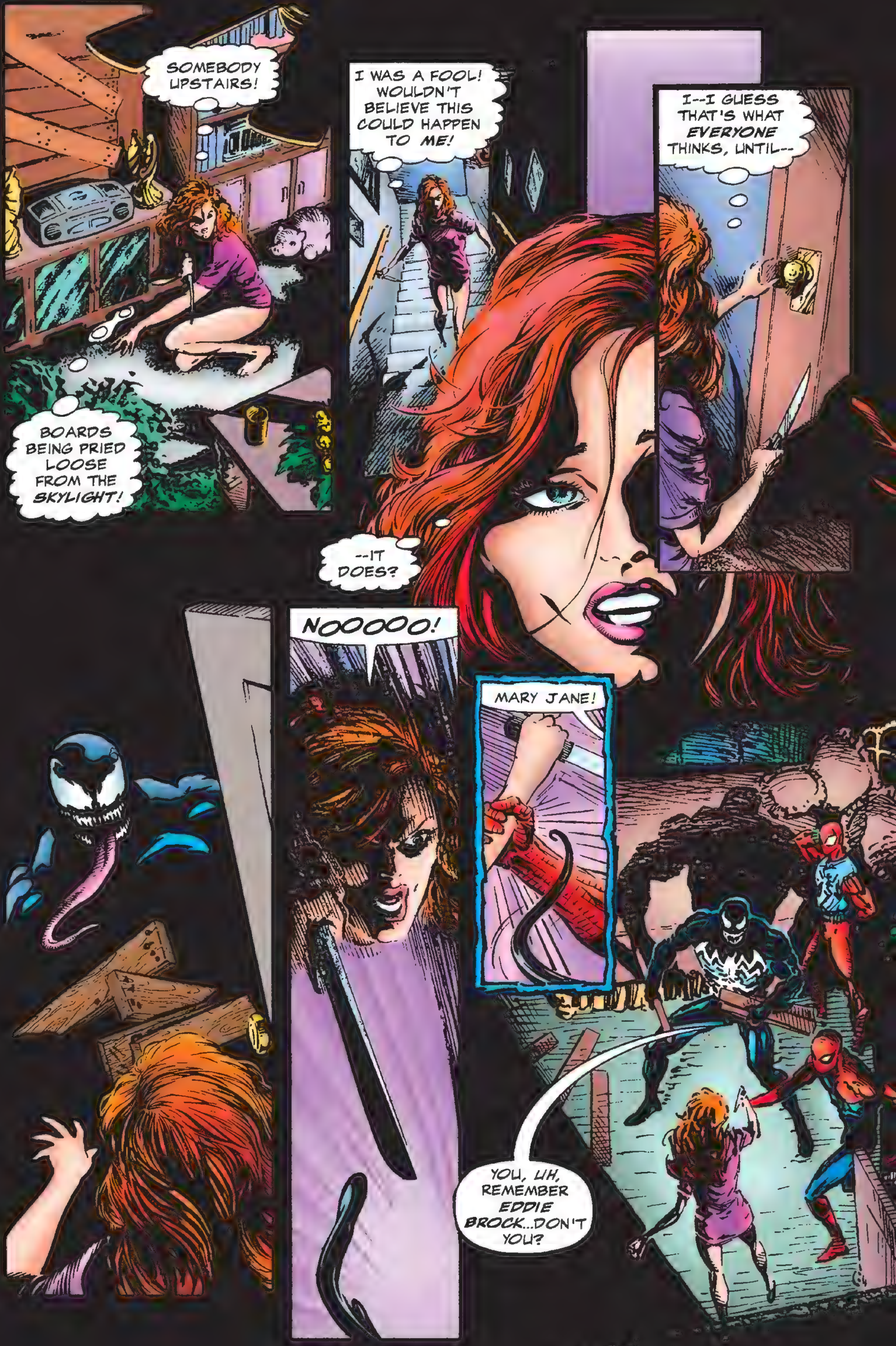
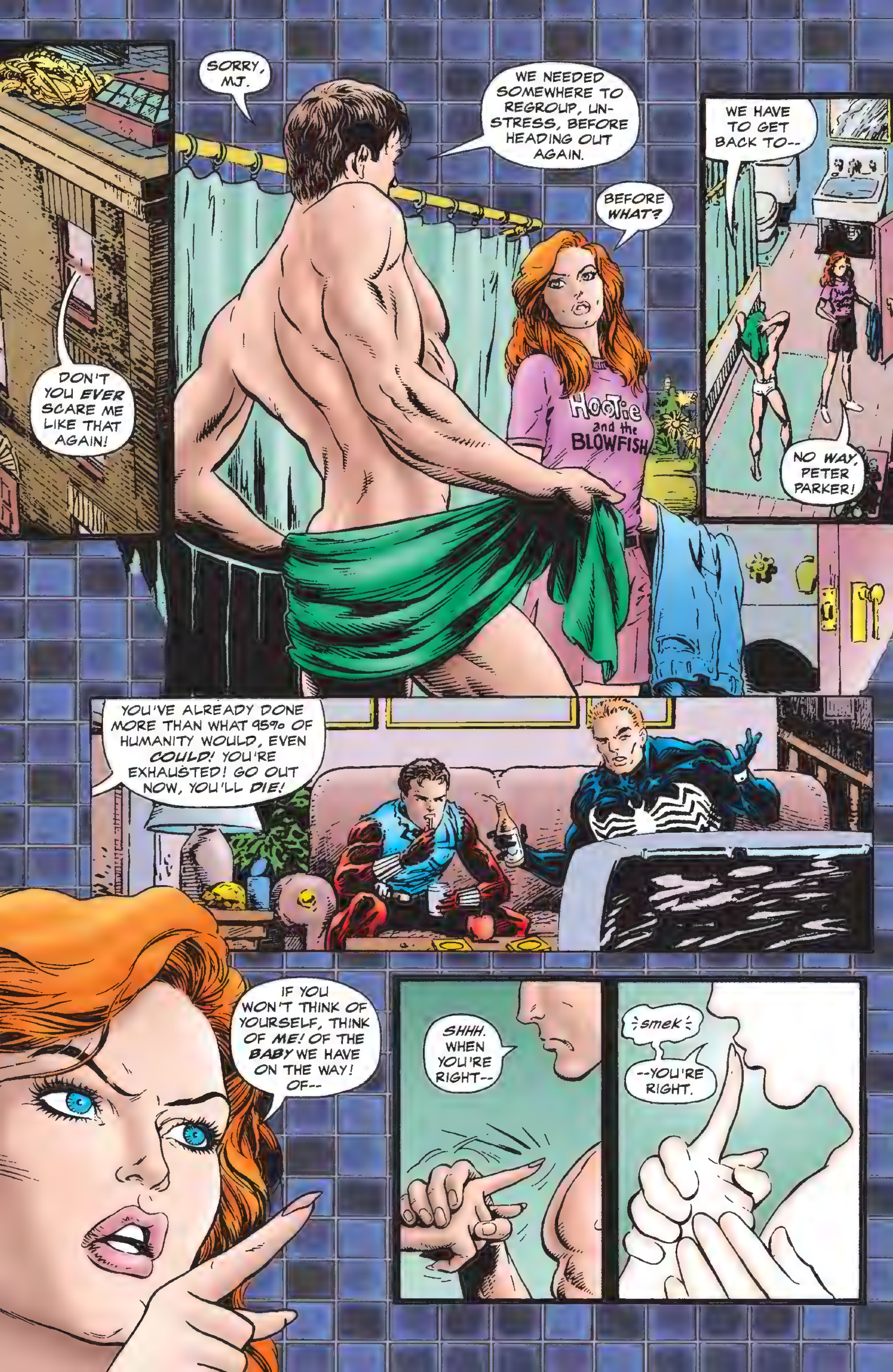

C'MON, SLOW DOWN! I ONLY WANNA SUCK YER *SKULL* OUT THROUGH YER NOSE!
HOW DID *CARNAGE* GET TO BE FORTY FEET TALL?!
BEATS THE HECK OUTTA ME!
BUT THE ALIENS SEEM CONFUSED, LIKE THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF "BIG BROTHER"!
"TOO BAD THEY DON'T FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT *VENOM!*"
"YEAH, THEY'RE ALL OVER HIM LIKE VULTURES ON ROAD KILL!"
WHICH LEAVES US TO DEAL WITH THIS GIANT *PSYCHO* ALONE!

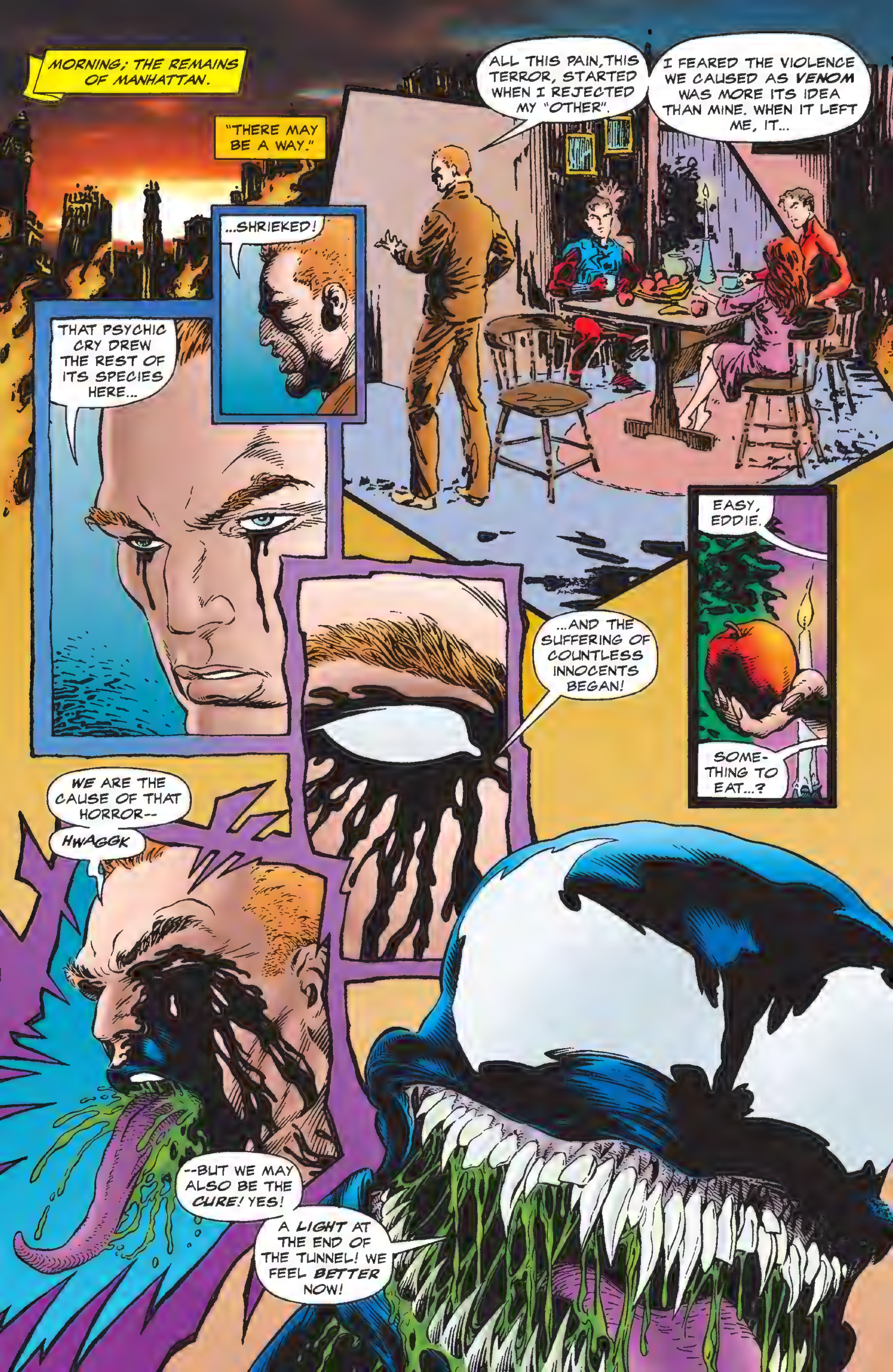

HE'S FIRING COSTUME SPIKES! BUT THEIR INCREASED SIZE--
--MAKES THEM EASY TO SEE...
...AND AVOID--!
hrgnf HE GRABBED ME IN MID-AIR!
SPIDEY'S CAUGHT! BUT THIS DEBRIS IS RAZOR-EDGED! SHOULD EVEN CUT THROUGH--
"--CARNAGE!"
SNAP!
LOSIN' TOO MUCH O' MYSELF! BETTER TAKE TIME TO--

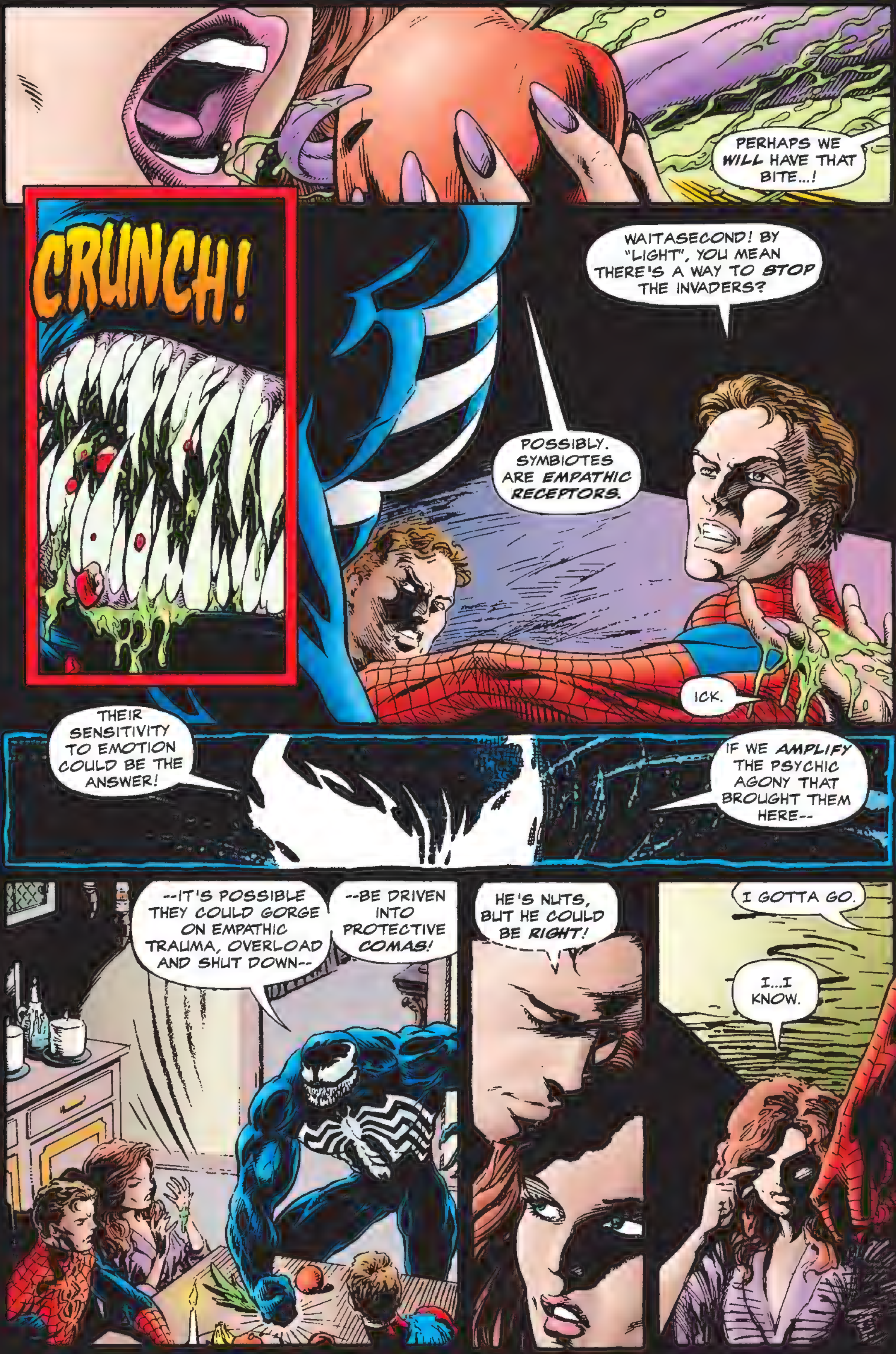

--CARBO-LOAD!
HE'S *ABSORBING* THE ALIENS, RIGHT OFF THEIR HUMAN HOSTS! MAKING THEIR MASS HIS *OWN!*
THAT'S HOW HE'S GOTTEN SO HUGE!
PROBABLY ABLE TO DO THAT BECAUSE HIS SYMBIOTE WAS SPAWNED ON *EARTH!* BUT WE'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER!
RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE PANIC, USE THIS FLYING CRAFT TO ESCAPE!
VENOM--!
WE SEE!
PLIP!
AND *APPROVE...!*

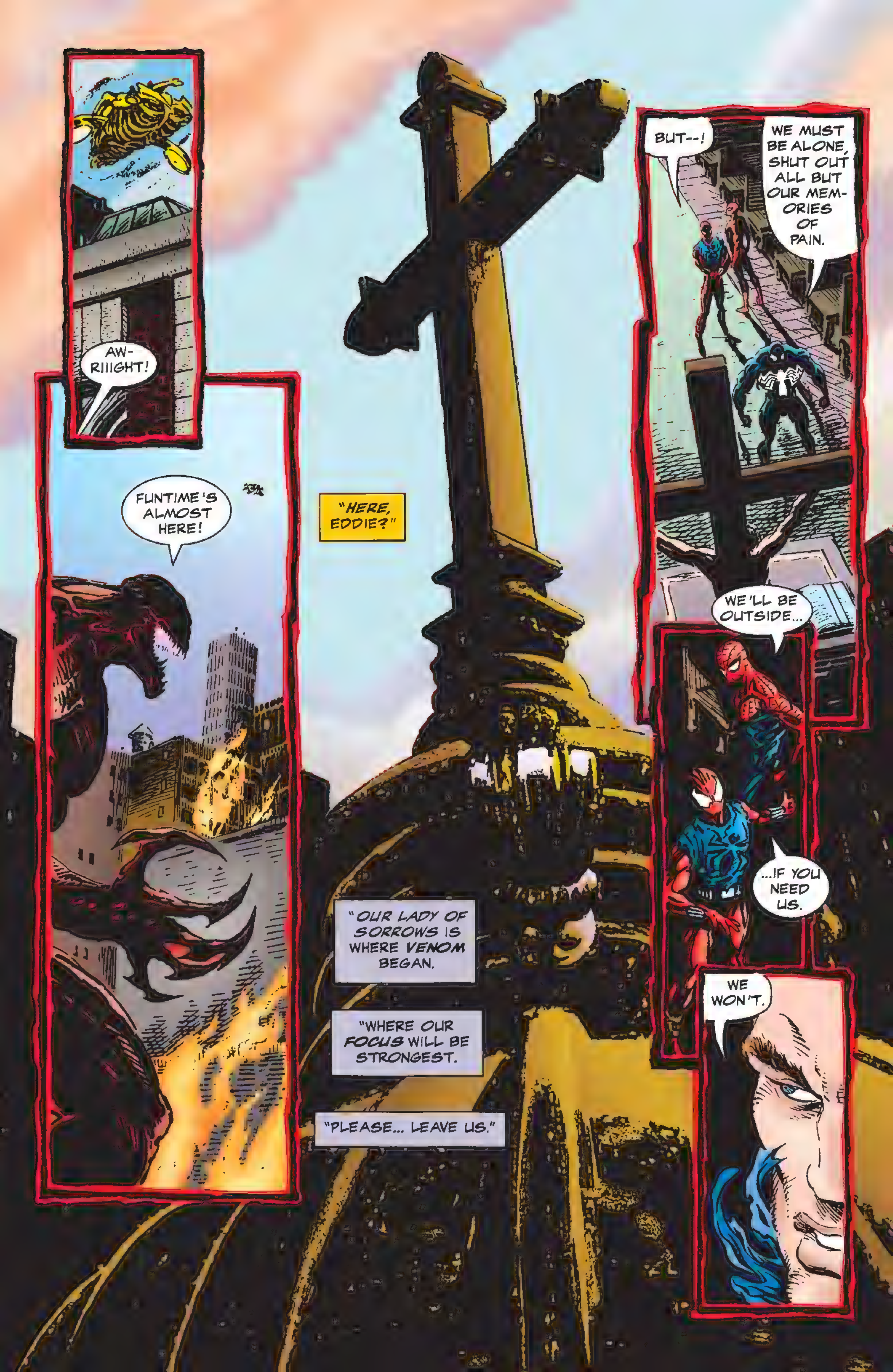

IS...IS ANYBODY OUT THERE?
SORRY. I--I GUESS THAT'S NOT VERY PROFESSIONAL. AND I'VE BEEN A DISC JOCKEY IN THE BIG APPLE FOR TWENTY YEARS! BUT--
--I'VE NEVER BEEN THROUGH ANYTHING LIKE THIS! SIRENS HAVE STOPPED...
...BUT I STILL HEAR THE SCREAMS.
HAVEN'T LEFT THIS BOOTH IN TWO DAYS. PHONES ARE DEAD. NO WINDOWS.
SO I HOPE YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IF I ASK...IF I PLEAD...
...IS ANYBODY OUT THERE?

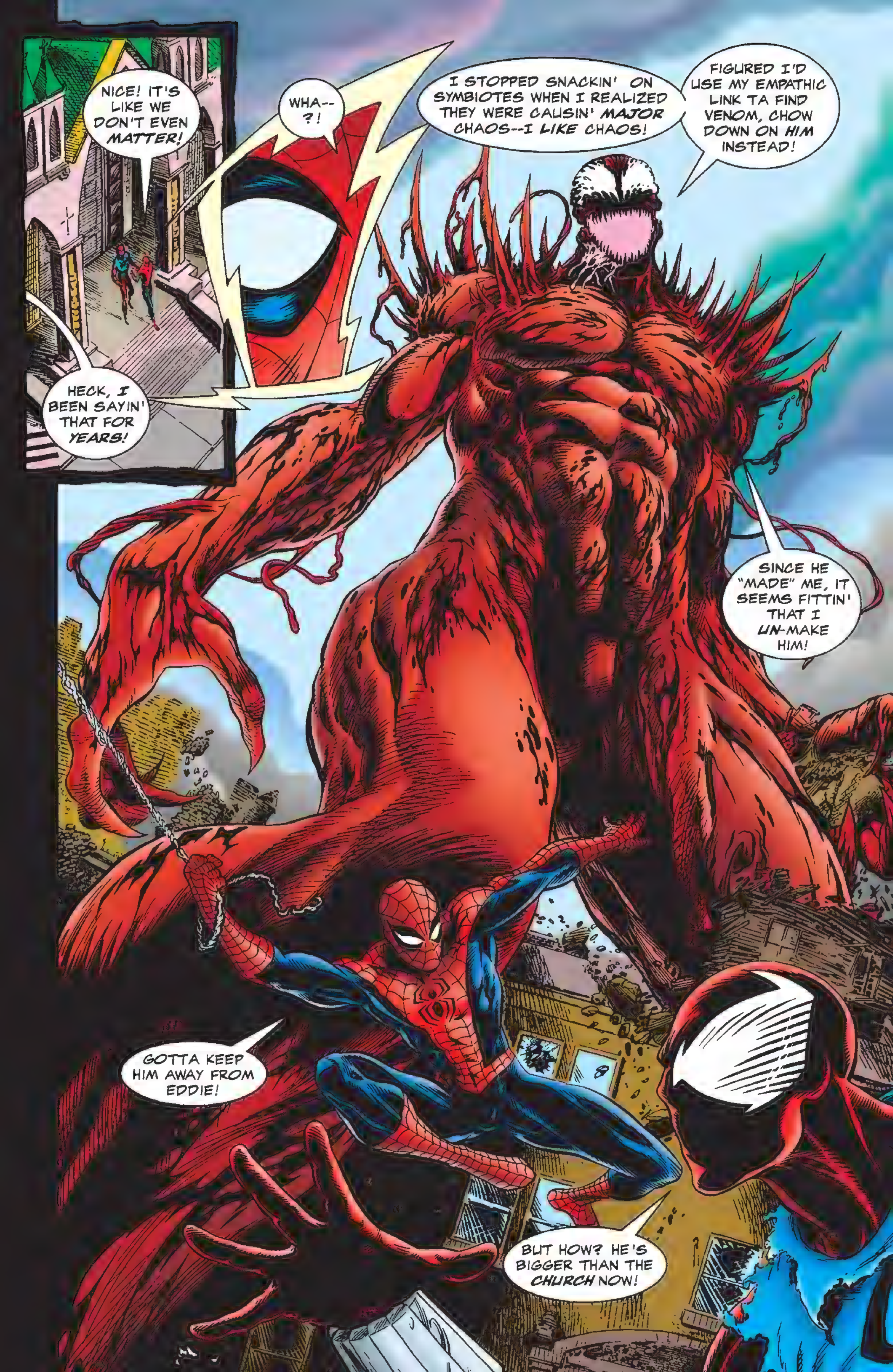

SOMEBODY UPSTAIRS!
BOARDS BEING PRIED LOOSE FROM THE *SKYLIGHT!*
I WAS A FOOL! WOULDN'T BELIEVE THIS COULD HAPPEN TO *ME!*
I--I GUESS THAT'S WHAT *EVERYONE* THINKS, UNTIL--
--IT DOES?
NOOOOO!
MARY JANE!
YOU, *UH,* REMEMBER *EDDIE BROCK*...DON'T YOU?

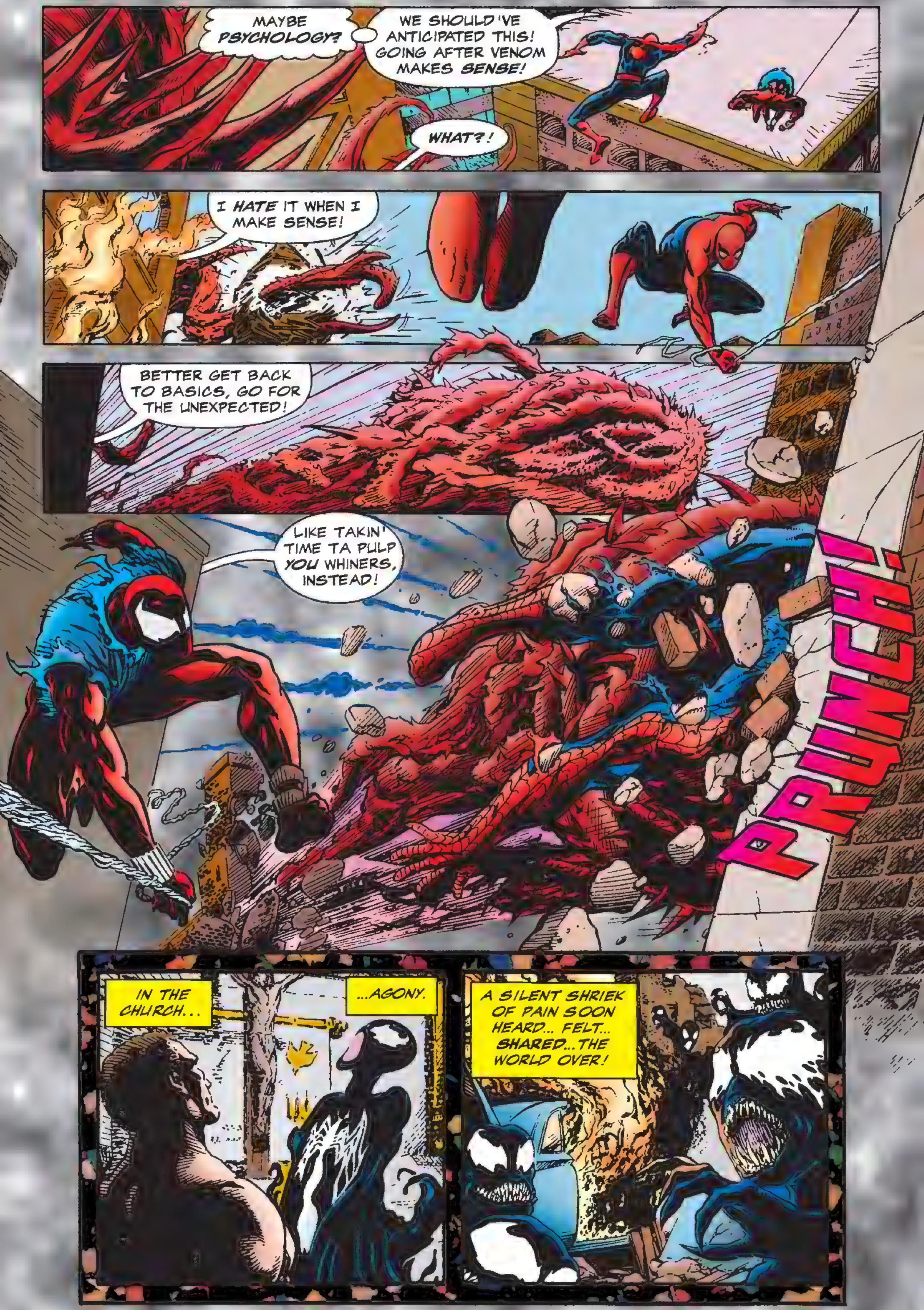

DON'T YOU *EVER* SCARE ME LIKE THAT AGAIN!
SORRY, MJ.
WE NEEDED SOMEWHERE TO REGROUP, UNSTRESS, BEFORE HEADING OUT AGAIN.
Hootie and the BLOWFISH
BEFORE *WHAT?*
WE HAVE TO GET BACK TO--
NO *WAY,* PETER PARKER!
YOU'VE ALREADY DONE MORE THAN WHAT 95% OF HUMANITY WOULD, EVEN *COULD!* YOU'RE EXHAUSTED! GO OUT NOW, YOU'LL *DIE!*
IF YOU WON'T THINK OF YOURSELF, THINK OF *ME!* OF THE *BABY* WE HAVE ON THE WAY! OF--
SHHH. WHEN YOU'RE RIGHT--
smek
--YOU'RE RIGHT.

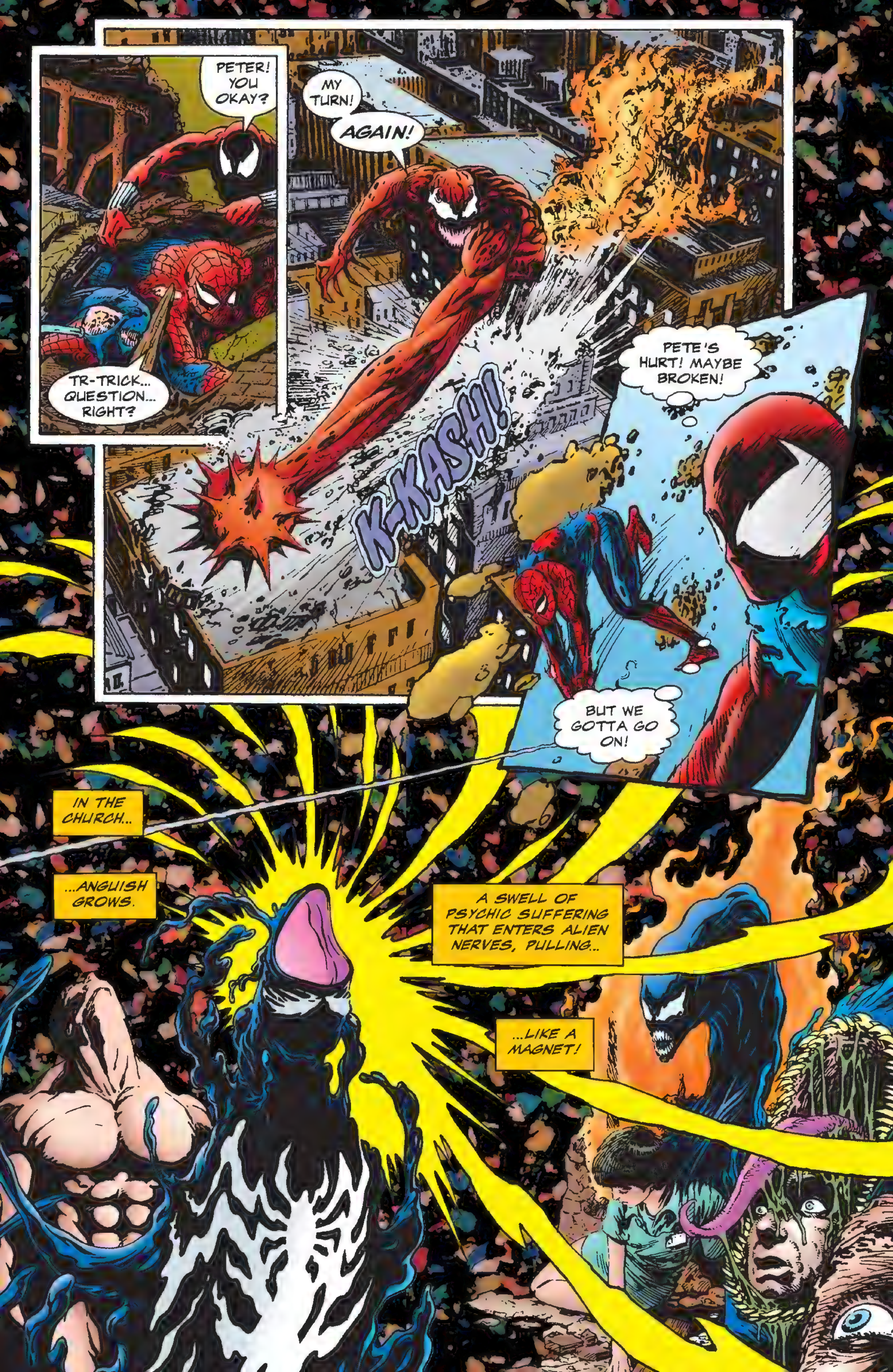

MORNING; THE REMAINS OF MANHATTAN.
"THERE MAY BE A WAY."
ALL THIS PAIN, THIS TERROR, STARTED WHEN I REJECTED MY "OTHER".
I FEARED THE VIOLENCE WE CAUSED AS VENOM WAS MORE ITS IDEA THAN MINE. WHEN IT LEFT ME, IT...
...SHRIEKED!
THAT PSYCHIC CRY DREW THE REST OF ITS SPECIES HERE...
...AND THE SUFFERING OF COUNTLESS INNOCENTS BEGAN!
EASY, EDDIE.
SOME-THING TO EAT...?
WE ARE THE CAUSE OF THAT HORROR--
HWAGGK
--BUT WE MAY ALSO BE THE CURE! YES!
A LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL! WE FEEL BETTER NOW!

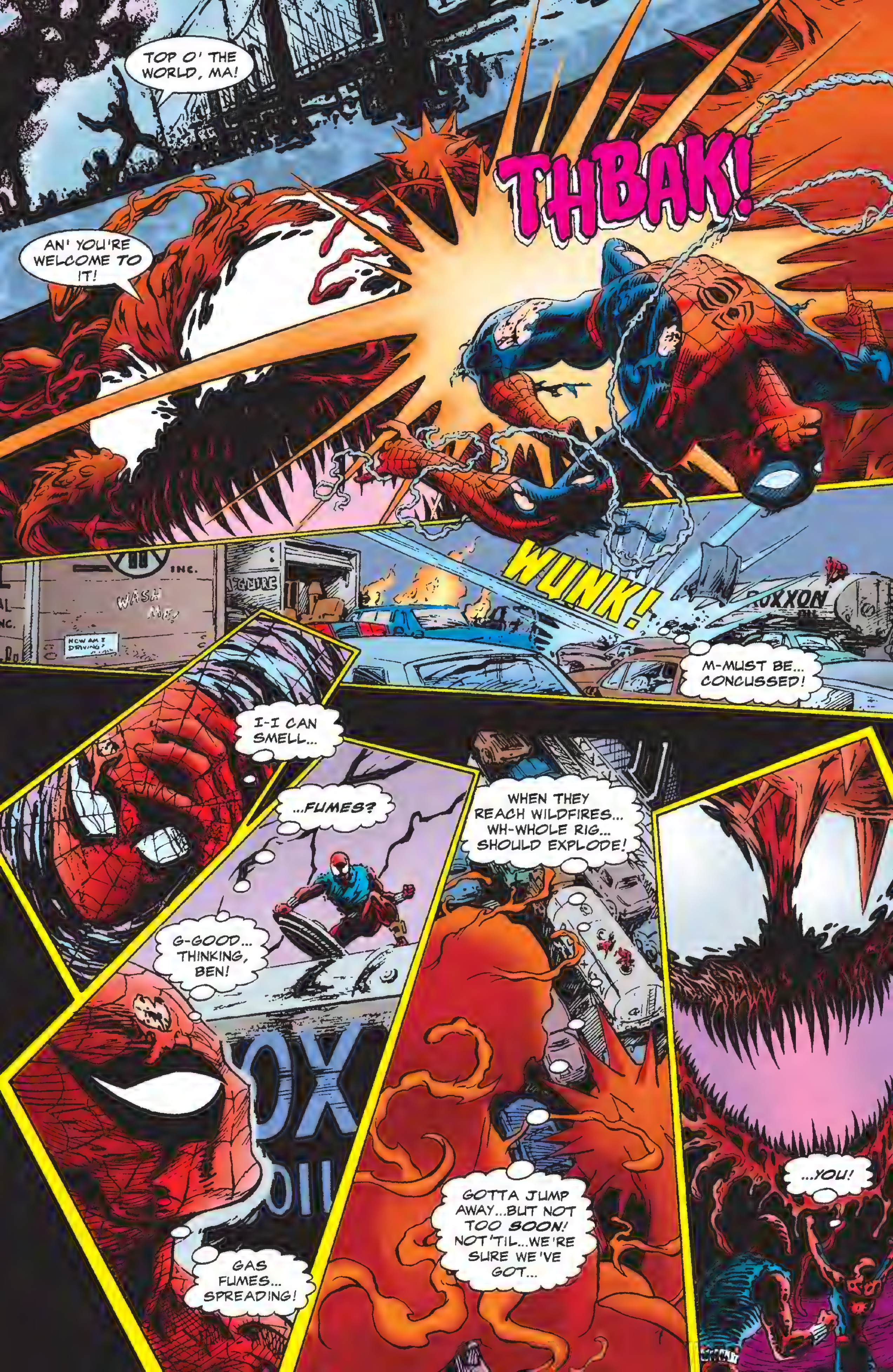

PERHAPS WE *WILL* HAVE THAT BITE...!
CRUNCH!
WAITASECOND! BY "LIGHT", YOU MEAN THERE'S A WAY TO *STOP* THE INVADERS?
POSSIBLY. SYMBIOTES ARE *EMPATHIC RECEPTORS.*
ICK.
THEIR SENSITIVITY TO EMOTION COULD BE THE ANSWER!
IF WE *AMPLIFY* THE PSYCHIC AGONY THAT BROUGHT THEM HERE--
--IT'S POSSIBLE THEY COULD GORGE ON EMPATHIC TRAUMA, OVERLOAD AND SHUT DOWN--
--BE DRIVEN INTO PROTECTIVE *COMAS!*
HE'S NUTS, BUT HE COULD BE *RIGHT!*
I GOTTA GO.
I...I KNOW.

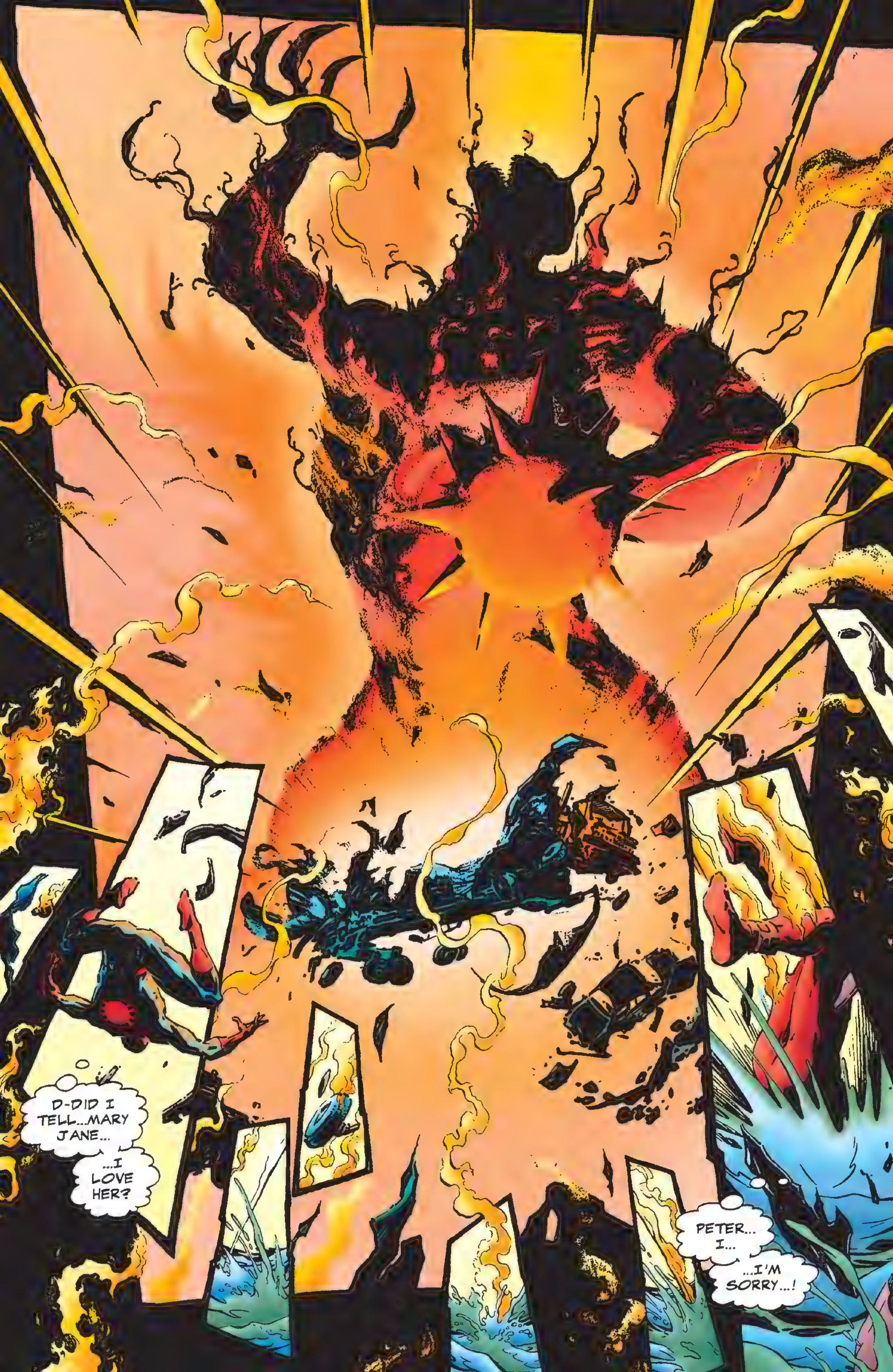

AW-RIIIGHT!
FUNTIME'S ALMOST HERE!
"HERE, EDDIE?"
"OUR LADY OF SORROWS IS WHERE VENOM BEGAN.
"WHERE OUR FOCUS WILL BE STRONGEST.
"PLEASE... LEAVE US."
BUT--!
WE MUST BE ALONE, SHUT OUT ALL BUT OUR MEMORIES OF PAIN.
WE'LL BE OUTSIDE...
...IF YOU NEED US.
WE WON'T.

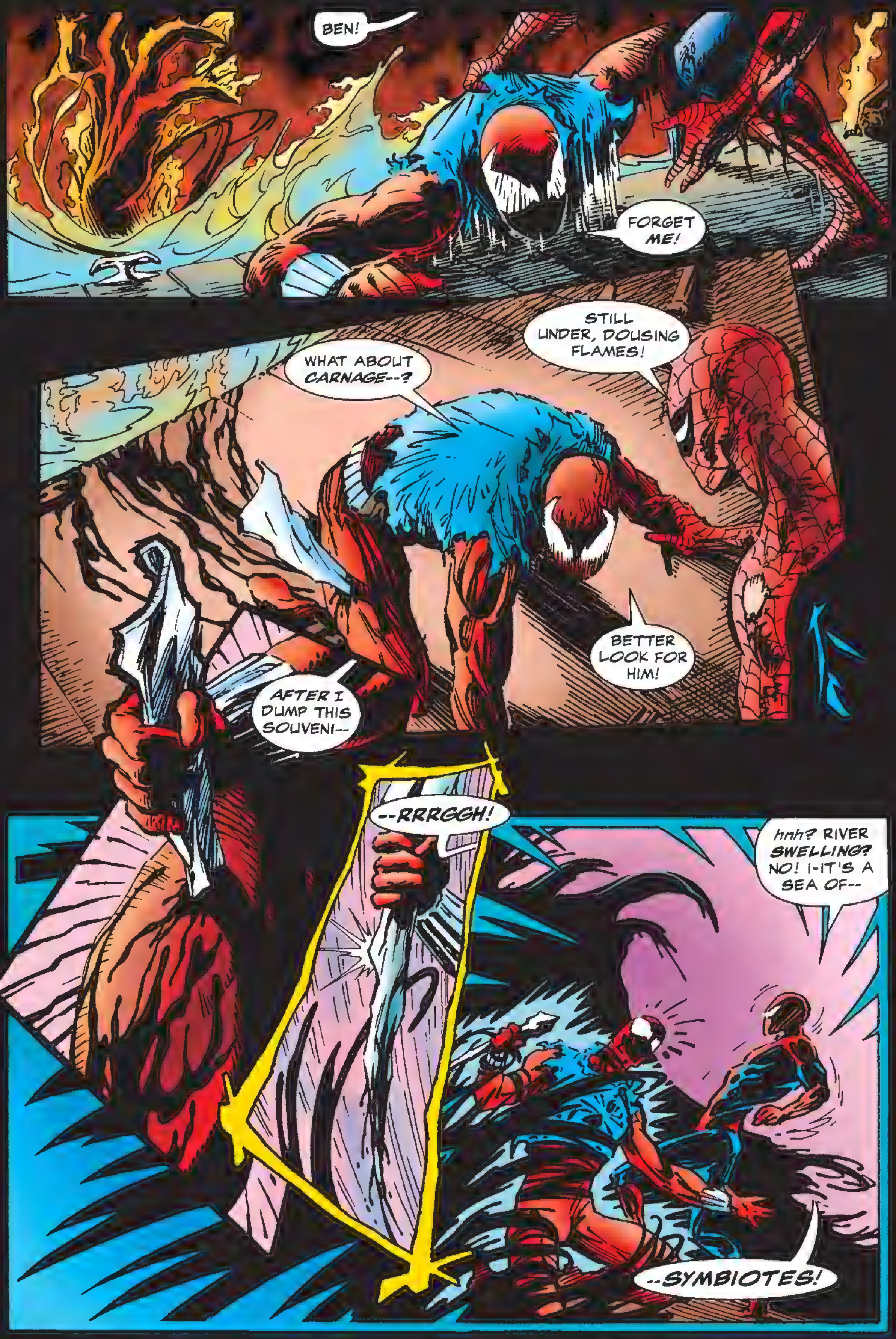

NICE! IT'S LIKE WE DON'T EVEN *MATTER!*
HECK, *I* BEEN SAYIN' THAT FOR *YEARS!*
WHA-- ?!
I STOPPED SNACKIN' ON SYMBIOTES WHEN I REALIZED THEY WERE CAUSIN' *MAJOR* CHAOS--I *LIKE* CHAOS!
FIGURED I'D USE MY EMPATHIC LINK TA FIND VENOM, CHOW DOWN ON *HIM* INSTEAD!
SINCE HE "MADE" ME, IT SEEMS FITTIN' THAT I *UN*-MAKE HIM!
GOTTA KEEP HIM AWAY FROM EDDIE!
BUT HOW? HE'S BIGGER THAN THE *CHURCH* NOW!

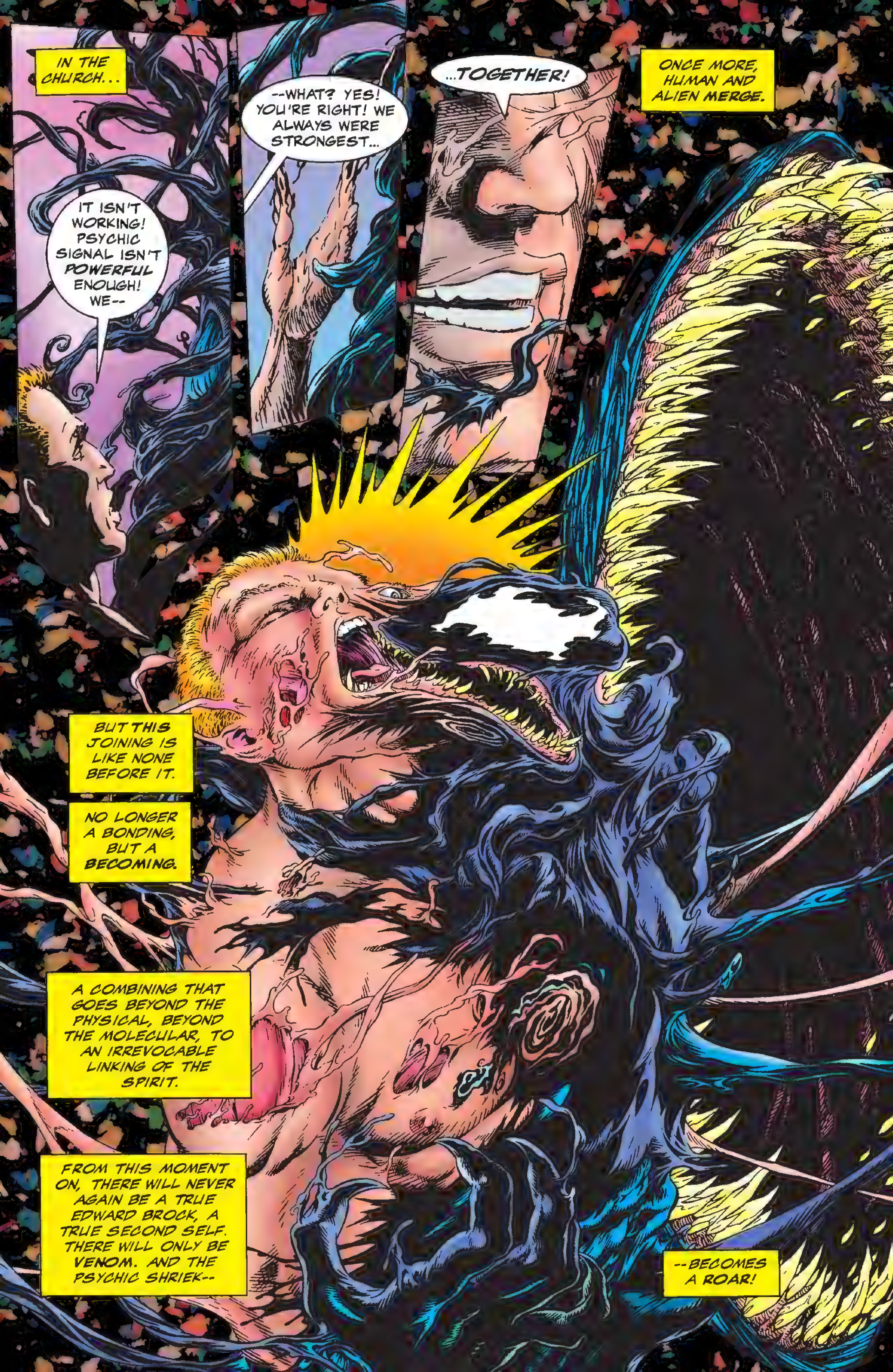

MAYBE PSYCHOLOGY?
WE SHOULD'VE ANTICIPATED THIS! GOING AFTER VENOM MAKES SENSE!
WHAT?!
I HATE IT WHEN I MAKE SENSE!
BETTER GET BACK TO BASICS, GO FOR THE UNEXPECTED!
LIKE TAKIN' TIME TA PULP YOU WHINERS, INSTEAD!
PRUNCH!
IN THE CHURCH...
...AGONY.
A SILENT SHRIEK OF PAIN SOON HEARD... FELT... SHARED...THE WORLD OVER!

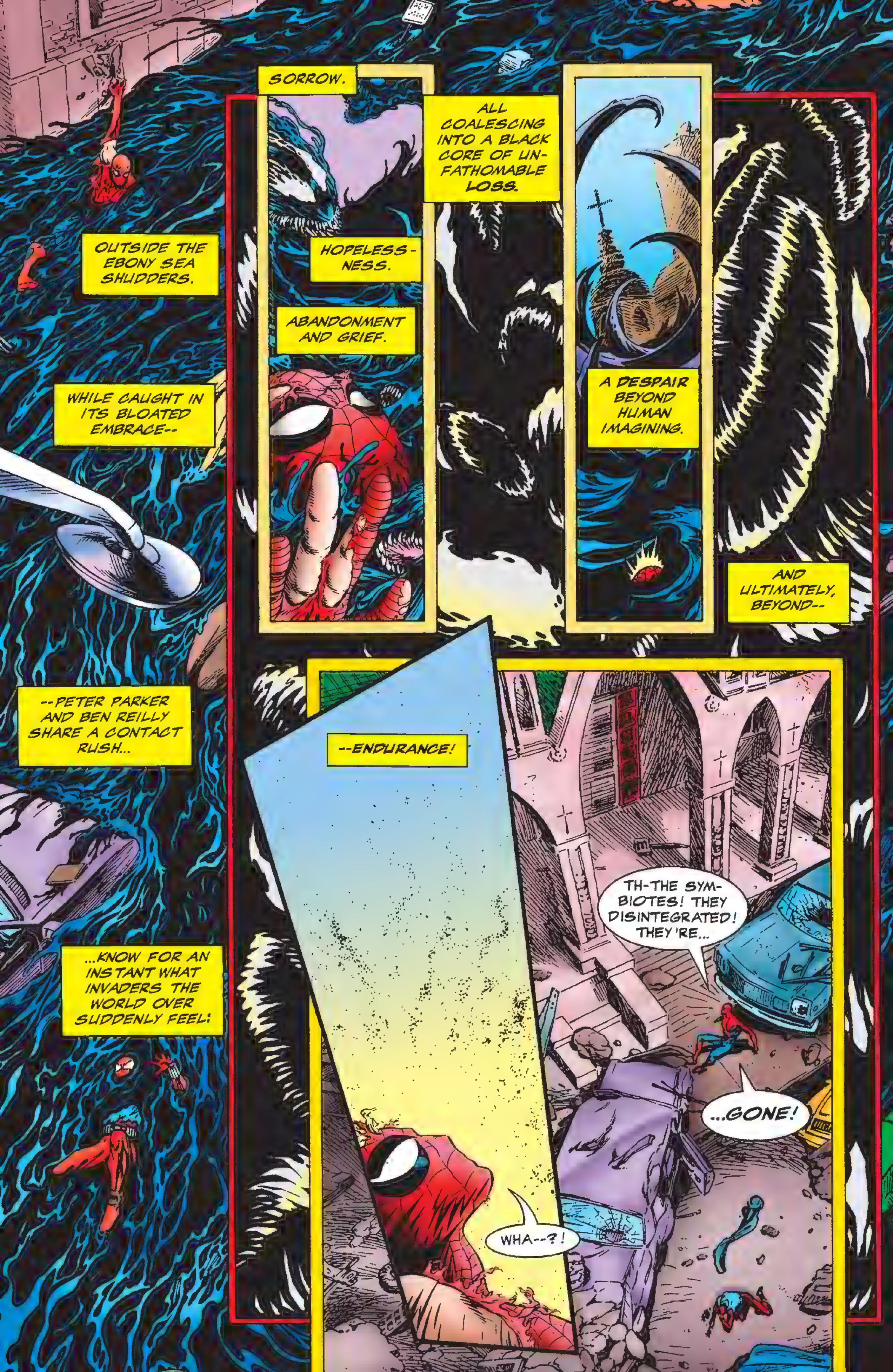

PETER! YOU OKAY?
TR-TRICK... QUESTION... RIGHT?
MY TURN!
AGAIN!
K-KASH!
PETE'S HURT! MAYBE BROKEN!
BUT WE GOTTA GO ON!
IN THE CHURCH...
...ANGUISH GROWS.
A SWELL OF PSYCHIC SUFFERING THAT ENTERS ALIEN NERVES, PULLING...
...LIKE A MAGNET!

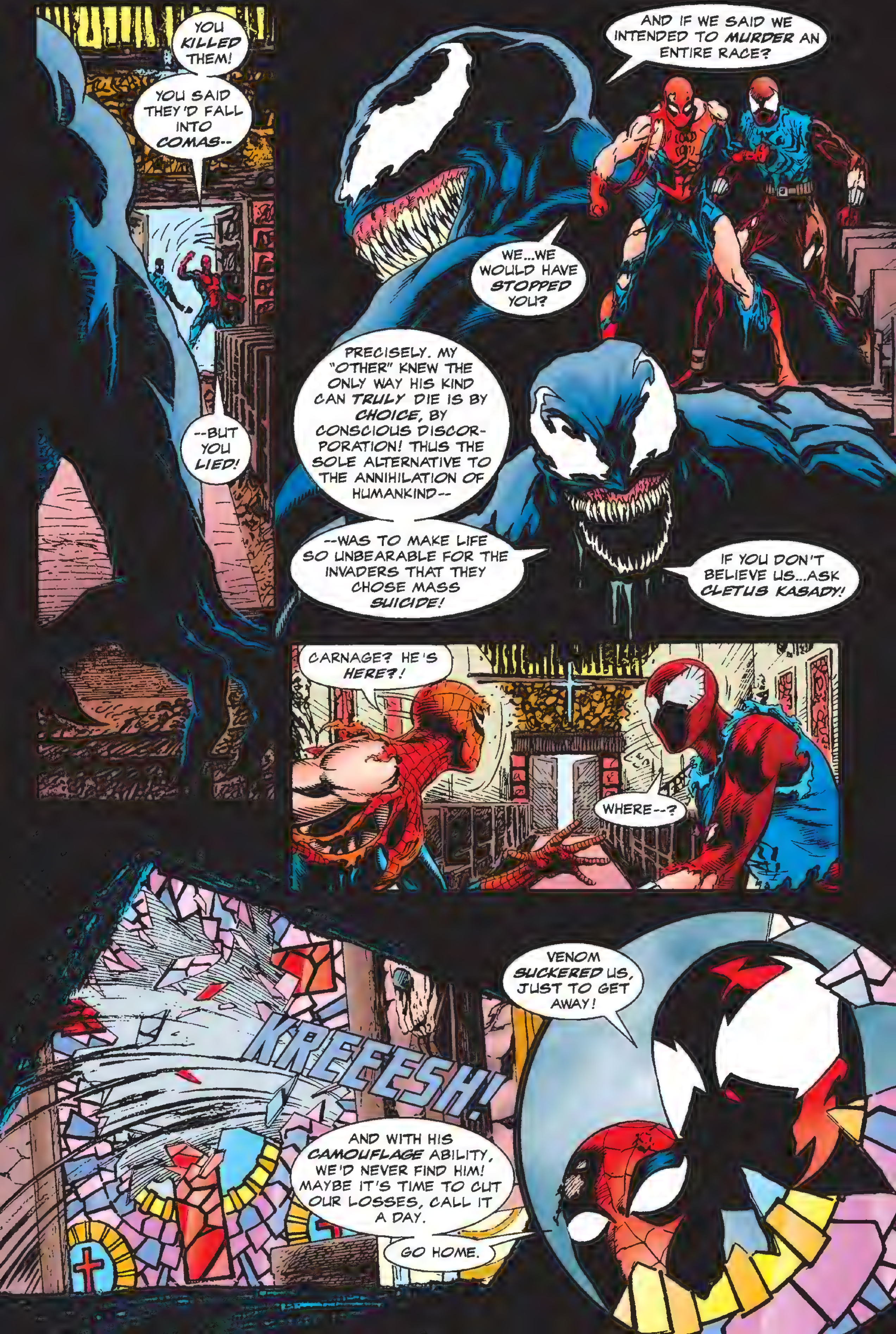

TOP O' THE WORLD, MA!
AN' YOU'RE WELCOME TO IT!
THBAK!
WASH ME!
HOW AM I DRIVING?
INC.
WUNK!
OXXON
M-MUST BE... CONCUSSED!
I-I CAN SMELL...
...FUMES?
G-GOOD... THINKING, BEN!
GAS FUMES... SPREADING!
WHEN THEY REACH WILDFIRES... WH-WHOLE RIG... SHOULD EXPLODE!
GOTTA JUMP AWAY...BUT NOT TOO *SOON!* NOT 'TIL...WE'RE SURE WE'VE GOT...
...YOU!

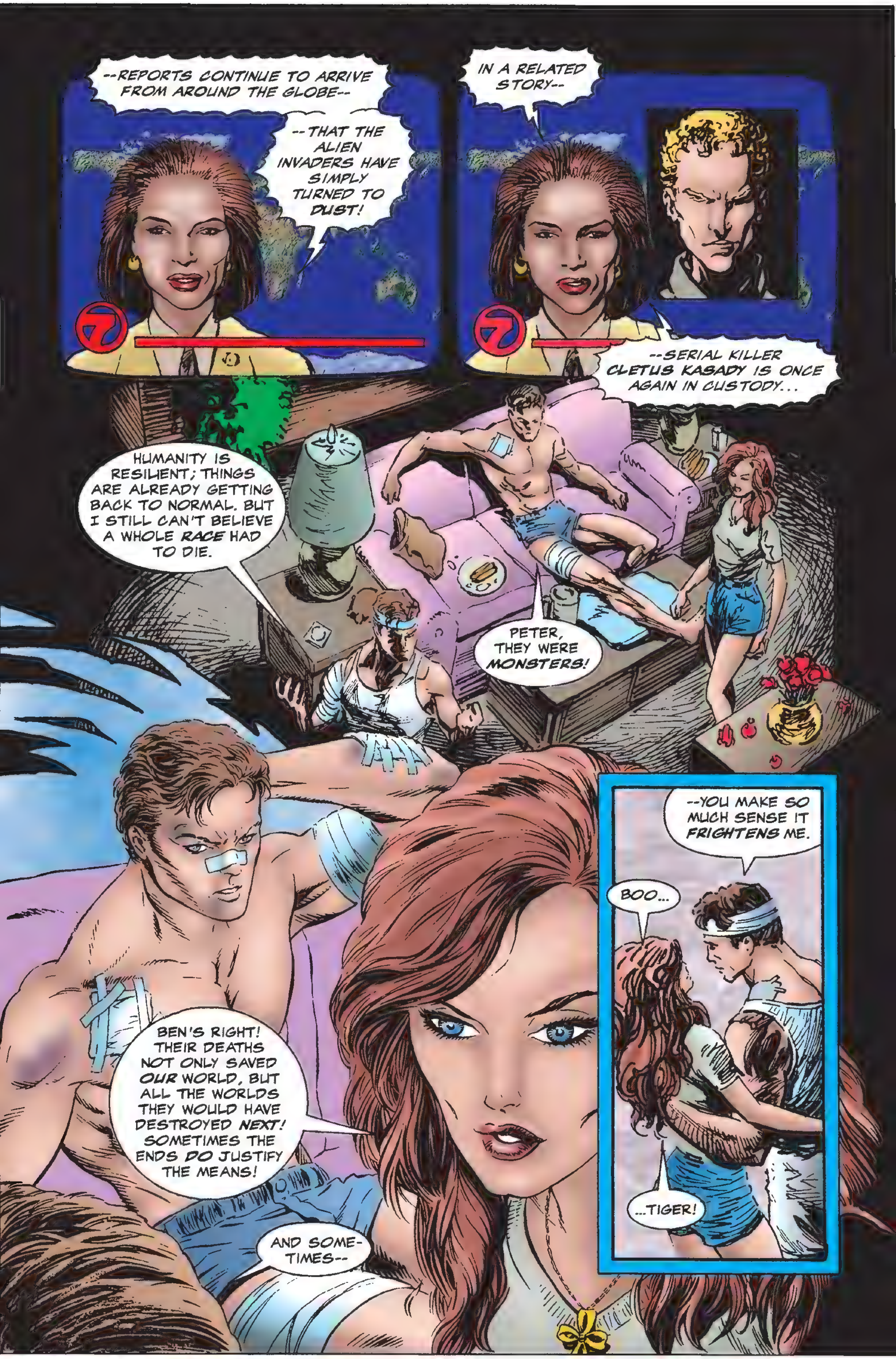

D-DID I TELL...MARY JANE...
...I LOVE HER?
PETER... I...
...I'M SORRY...!

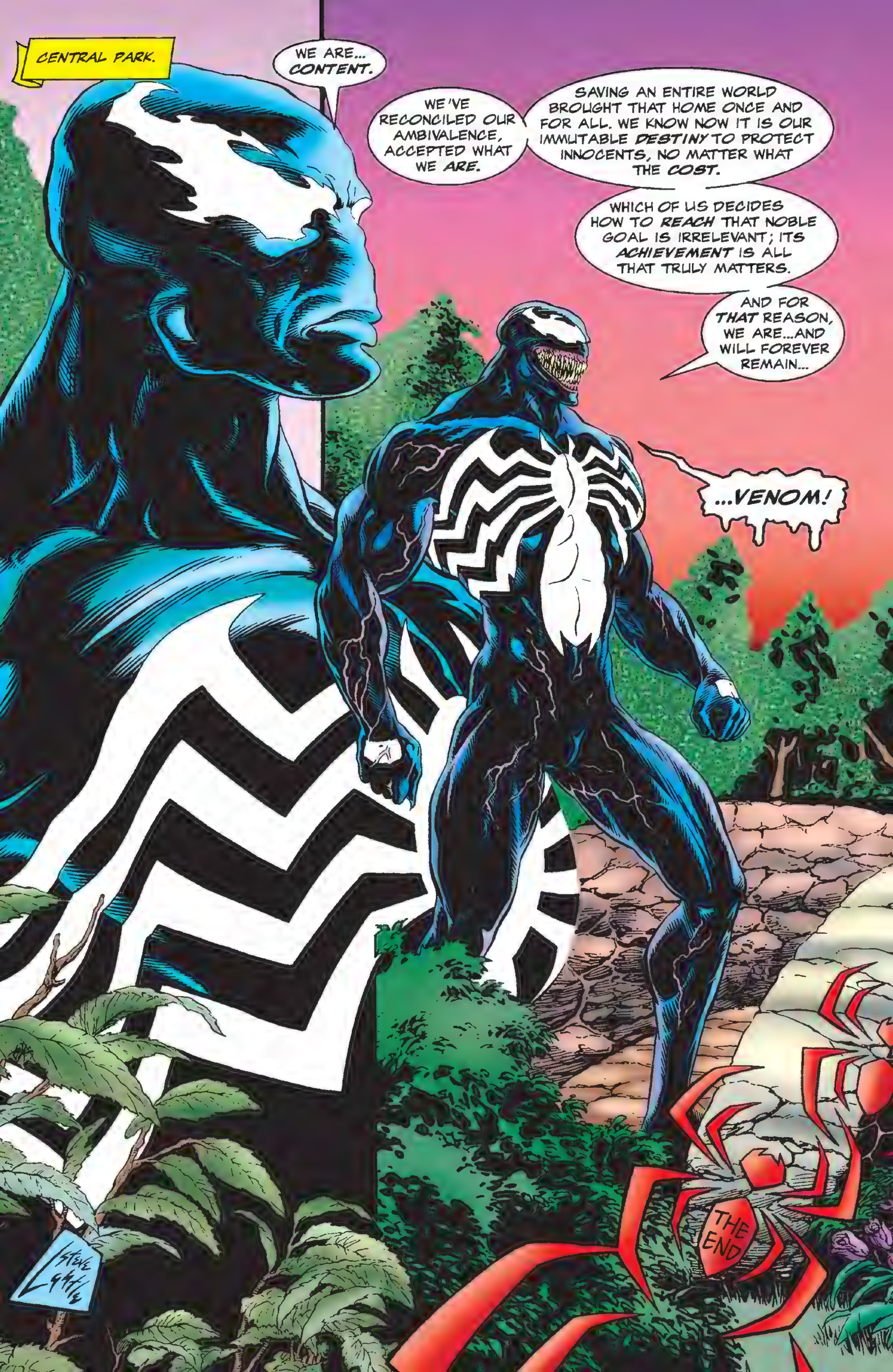

BEN!
FORGET ME!
STILL UNDER, DOUSING FLAMES!
WHAT ABOUT CARNAGE--?
BETTER LOOK FOR HIM!
AFTER I DUMP THIS SOUVENI--
--RRRGGH!
hnh? RIVER SWELLING? NO! I-IT'S A SEA OF--
--SYMBIOTES!

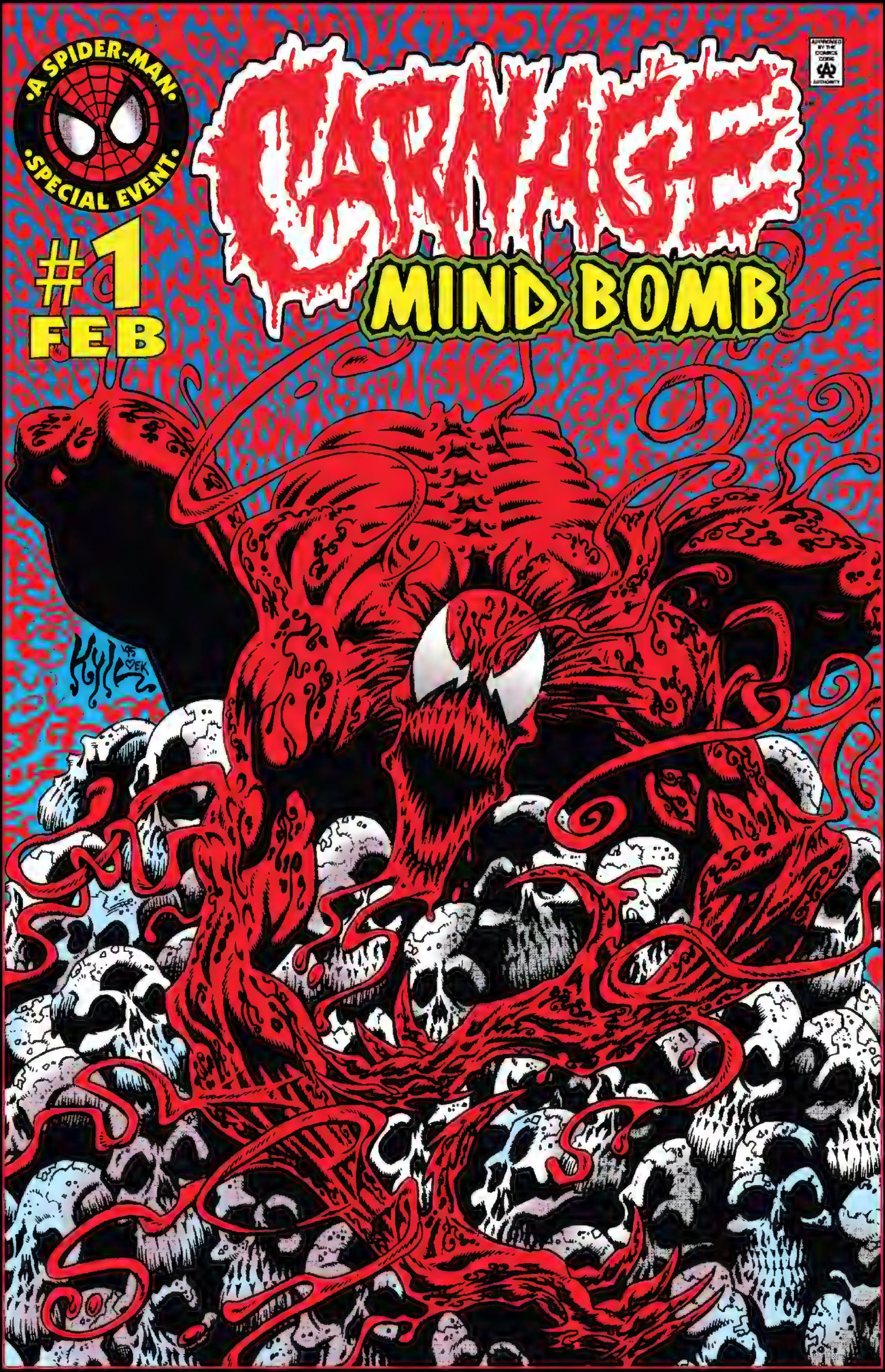

IN THE CHURCH...
IT ISN'T WORKING! PSYCHIC SIGNAL ISN'T *POWERFUL* ENOUGH! WE--
--WHAT? YES! YOU'RE RIGHT! WE ALWAYS WERE STRONGEST...
...TOGETHER!
ONCE MORE, HUMAN AND ALIEN MERGE.
BUT THIS JOINING IS LIKE NONE BEFORE IT.
NO LONGER A BONDING, BUT A **BECOMING.**
A COMBINING THAT GOES BEYOND THE PHYSICAL, BEYOND THE MOLECULAR, TO AN IRREVOCABLE LINKING OF THE SPIRIT.
FROM THIS MOMENT ON, THERE WILL NEVER AGAIN BE A TRUE EDWARD BROCK, A TRUE SECOND SELF. THERE WILL ONLY BE **VENOM.** AND THE PSYCHIC SHRIEK--
--BECOMES A ROAR!

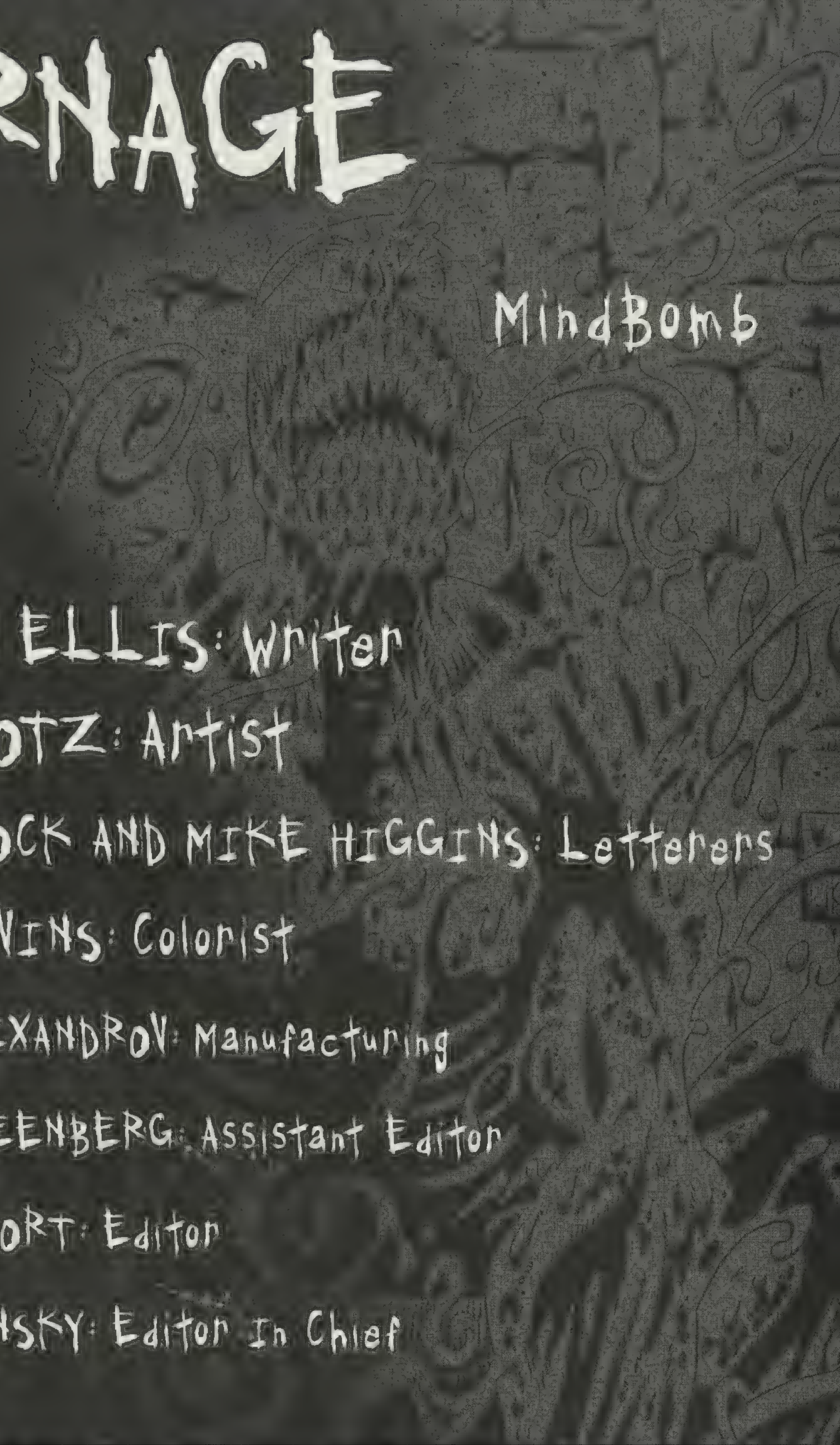

OUTSIDE THE EBONY SEA SHUDDERS.
WHILE CAUGHT IN ITS BLOATED EMBRACE--
--PETER PARKER AND BEN REILLY SHARE A CONTACT RUSH...
...KNOW FOR AN INSTANT WHAT INVADERS THE WORLD OVER SUDDENLY FEEL:
SORROW.
HOPELESSNESS.
ABANDONMENT AND GRIEF.
ALL COALESCING INTO A BLACK CORE OF UNFATHOMABLE LOSS.
A DESPAIR BEYOND HUMAN IMAGINING.
AND ULTIMATELY, BEYOND--
--ENDURANCE!
WHA--?!
TH-THE SYMBIOTES! THEY DISINTEGRATED! THEY'RE...
...GONE!


YOU KILLED THEM!
YOU SAID THEY'D FALL INTO COMAS--
--BUT YOU LIED!
AND IF WE SAID WE INTENDED TO MURDER AN ENTIRE RACE?
WE...WE WOULD HAVE STOPPED YOU?
PRECISELY. MY "OTHER" KNEW THE ONLY WAY HIS KIND CAN TRULY DIE IS BY CHOICE, BY CONSCIOUS DISCORPORATION! THUS THE SOLE ALTERNATIVE TO THE ANNIHILATION OF HUMANKIND--
--WAS TO MAKE LIFE SO UNBEARABLE FOR THE INVADERS THAT THEY CHOSE MASS SUICIDE!
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE US...ASK CLETUS KASADY!
CARNAGE? HE'S HERE?!
WHERE--?
KREEESH!
VENOM SUCKERED US, JUST TO GET AWAY!
AND WITH HIS CAMOUFLAGE ABILITY, WE'D NEVER FIND HIM! MAYBE IT'S TIME TO CUT OUR LOSSES, CALL IT A DAY.
GO HOME.


--REPORTS CONTINUE TO ARRIVE FROM AROUND THE GLOBE--
--THAT THE ALIEN INVADERS HAVE SIMPLY TURNED TO DUST!
IN A RELATED STORY--
--SERIAL KILLER CLETUS KASADY IS ONCE AGAIN IN CUSTODY...
HUMANITY IS RESILIENT; THINGS ARE ALREADY GETTING BACK TO NORMAL. BUT I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE A WHOLE RACE HAD TO DIE.
PETER, THEY WERE MONSTERS!
BEN'S RIGHT! THEIR DEATHS NOT ONLY SAVED OUR WORLD, BUT ALL THE WORLDS THEY WOULD HAVE DESTROYED NEXT! SOMETIMES THE ENDS DO JUSTIFY THE MEANS!
AND SOMETIMES--
--YOU MAKE SO MUCH SENSE IT FRIGHTENS ME.
BOO...
...TIGER!


CENTRAL PARK.
WE ARE... CONTENT.
WE'VE RECONCILED OUR AMBIVALENCE, ACCEPTED WHAT WE ARE.
SAVING AN ENTIRE WORLD BROUGHT THAT HOME ONCE AND FOR ALL. WE KNOW NOW IT IS OUR IMMUTABLE DESTINY TO PROTECT INNOCENTS, NO MATTER WHAT THE COST.
WHICH OF US DECIDES HOW TO REACH THAT NOBLE GOAL IS IRRELEVANT; ITS ACHIEVEMENT IS ALL THAT TRULY MATTERS.
AND FOR THAT REASON, WE ARE...AND WILL FOREVER REMAIN...
...VENOM!
THE END
STEVE LGHTLE


A SPIDER-MAN SPECIAL EVENT
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
CARNAGE
MIND BOMB
#1
FEB



CARNAGE

MindBomb

WARREN ELLIS: Writer

KYLE HOTZ: Artist

JON BABCOCK AND MIKE HIGGINS: Letterers

MARIE JAVINS: Colorist

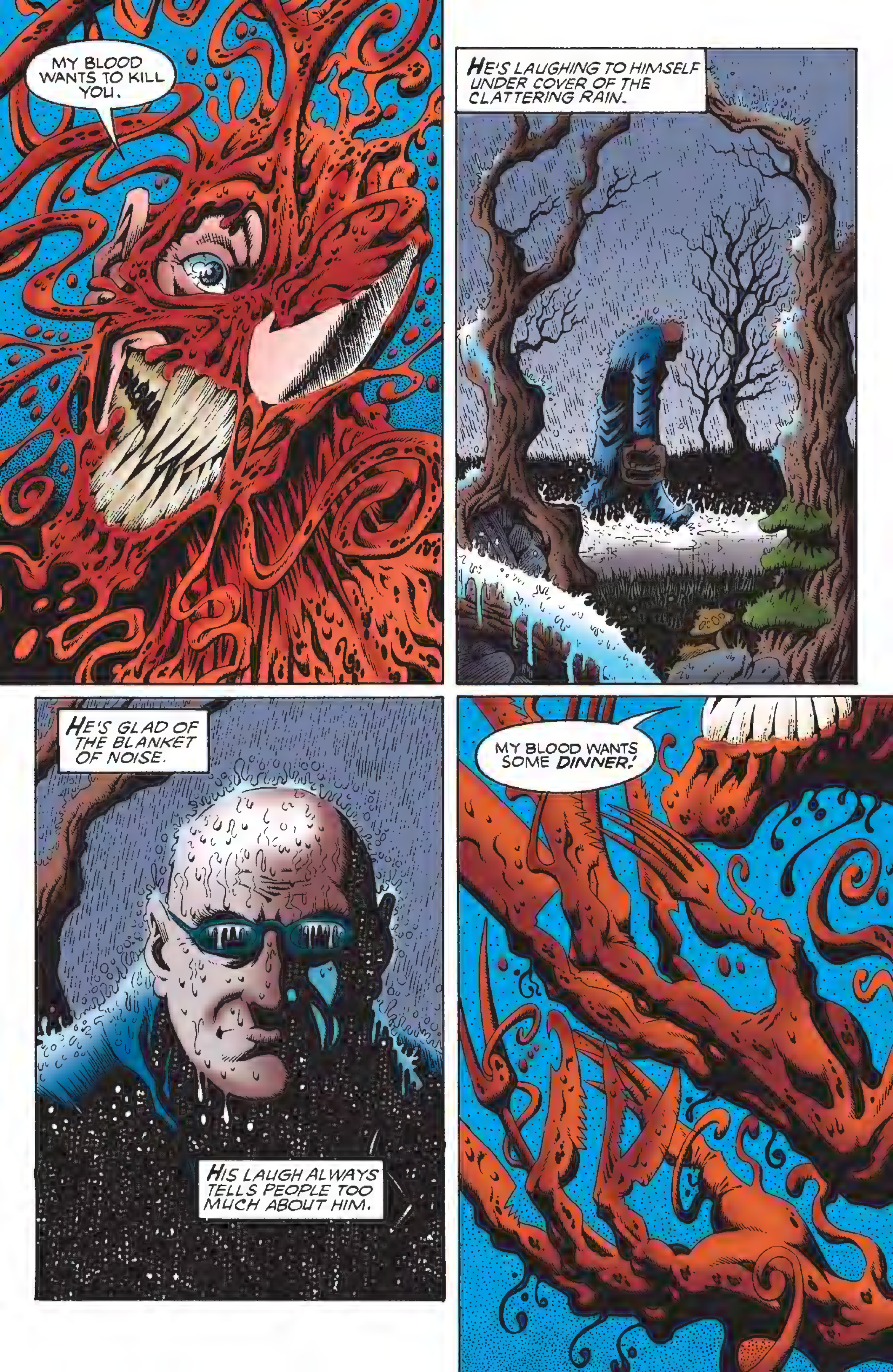
STEVE ALEXANDROV: Manufacturing

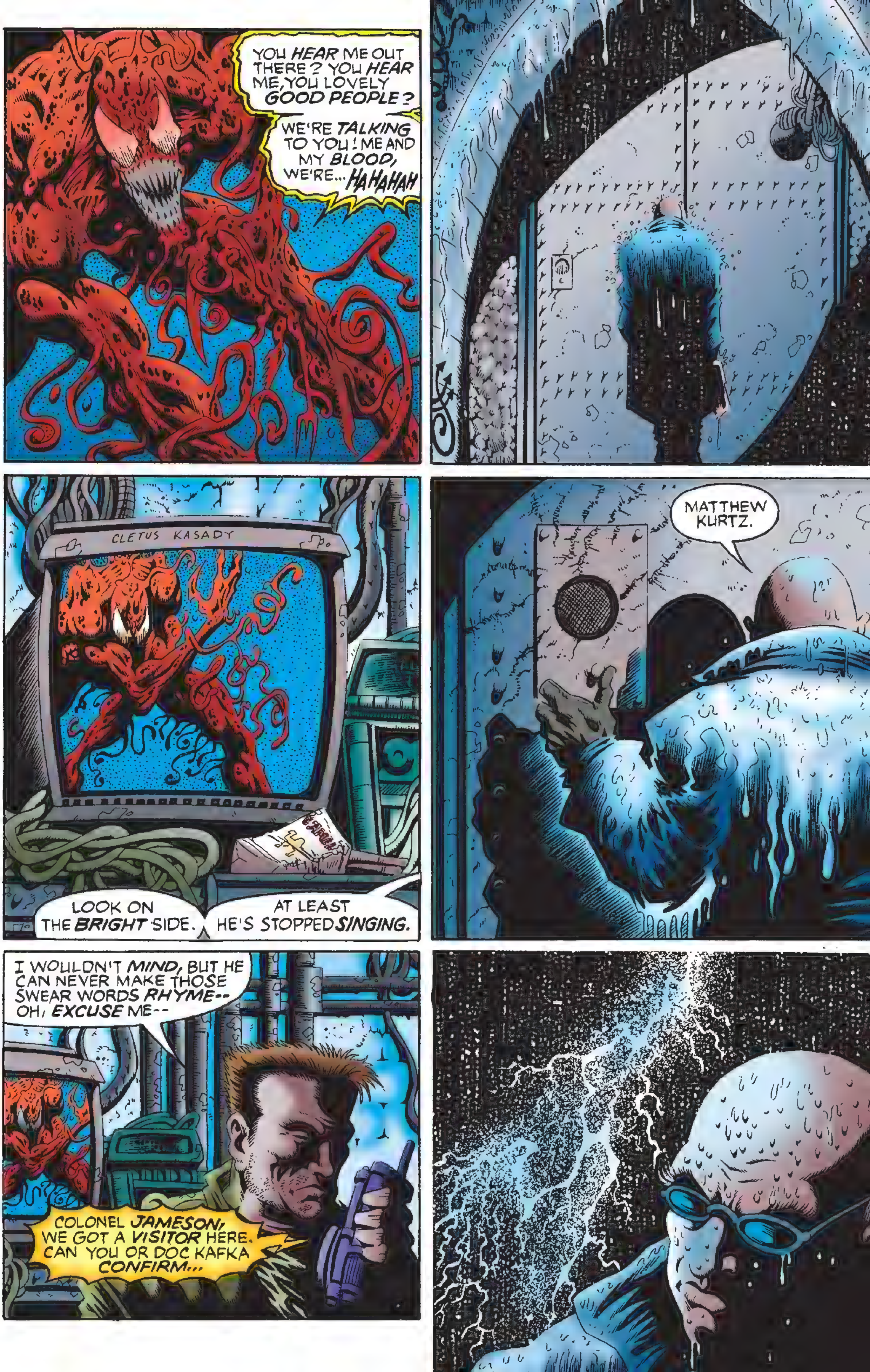
GLENN GREENBERG: Assistant Editor

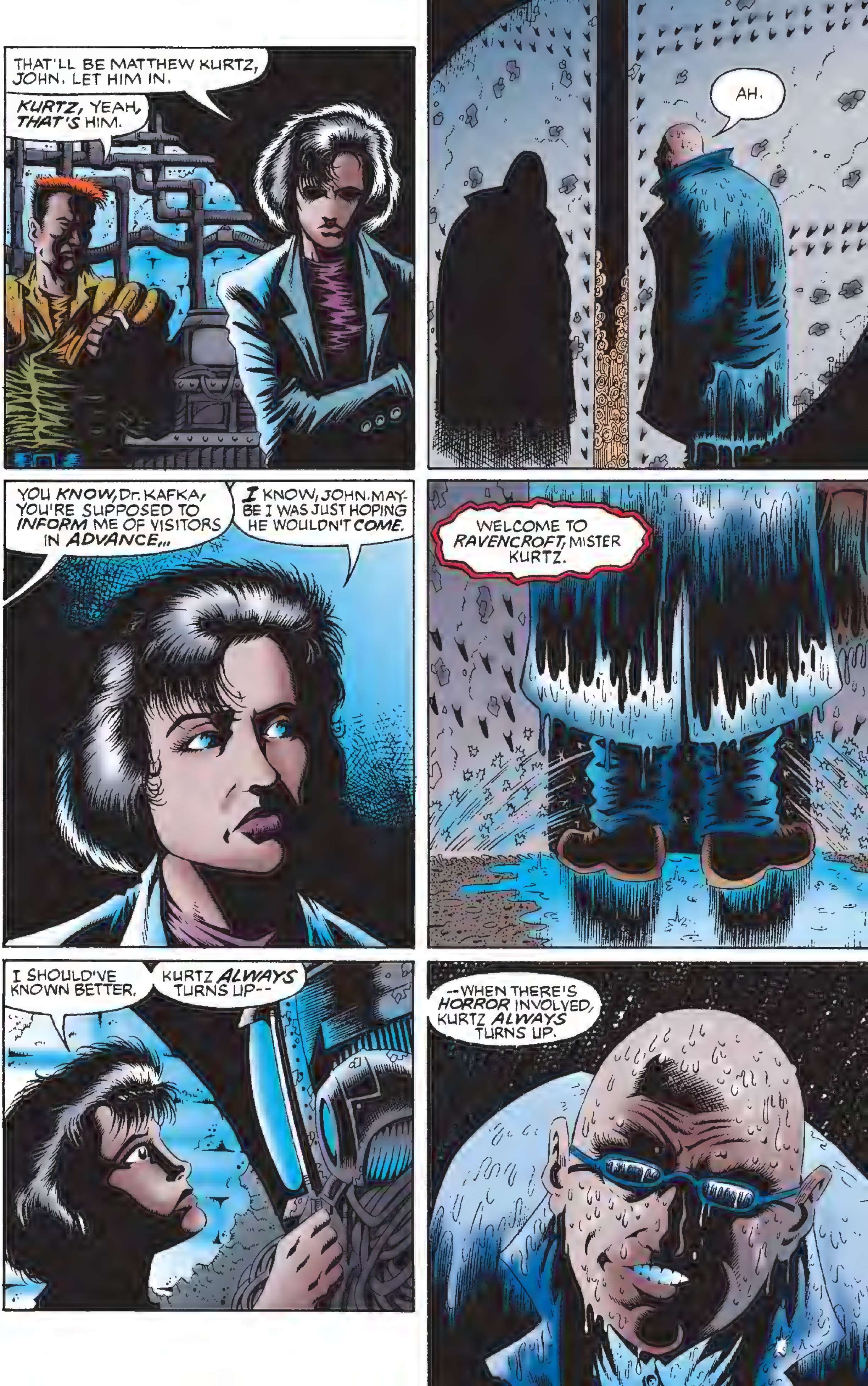
TOM BREVOORT: Editor

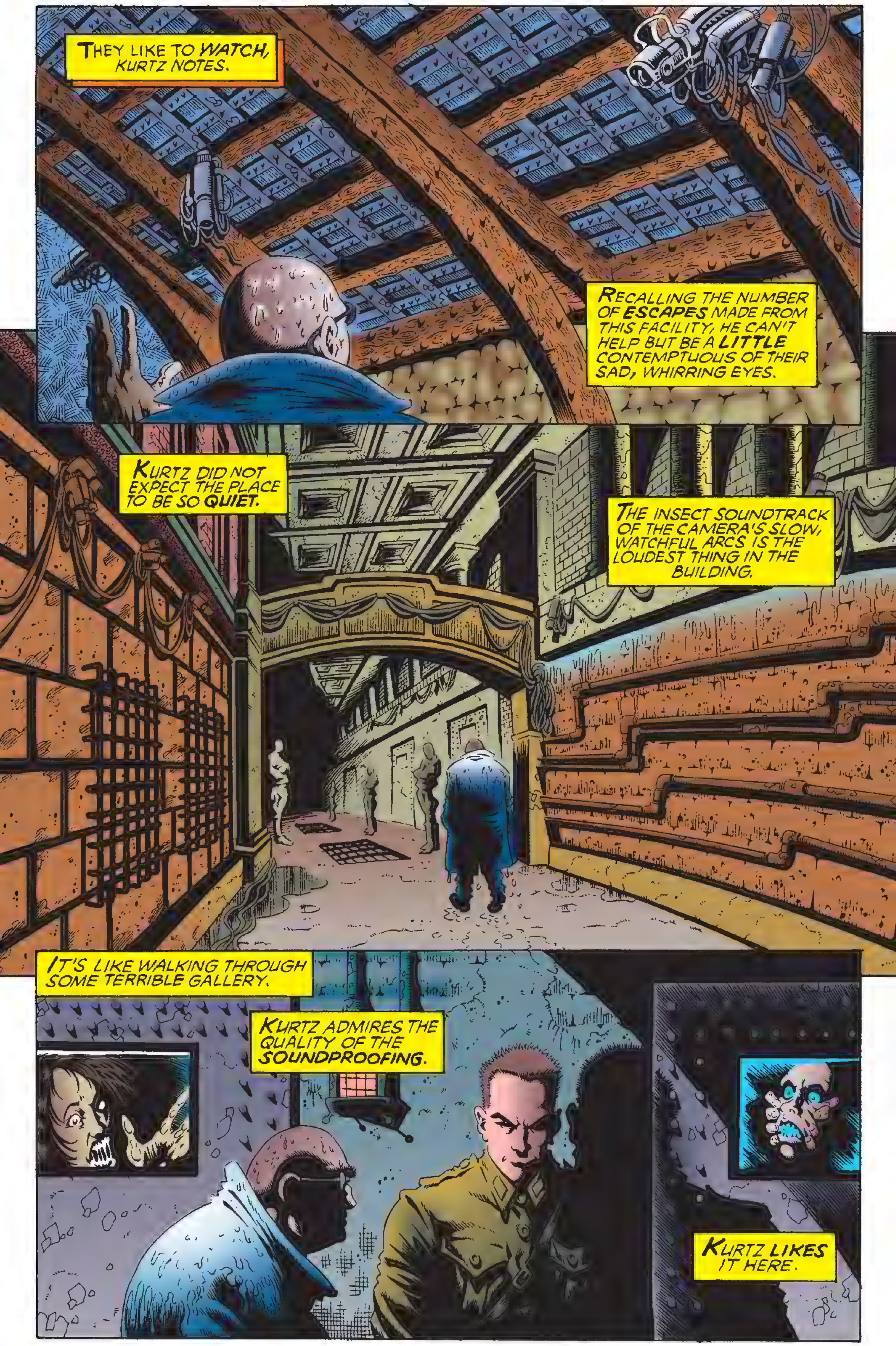
BOB BUDIANSKY: Editor In Chief

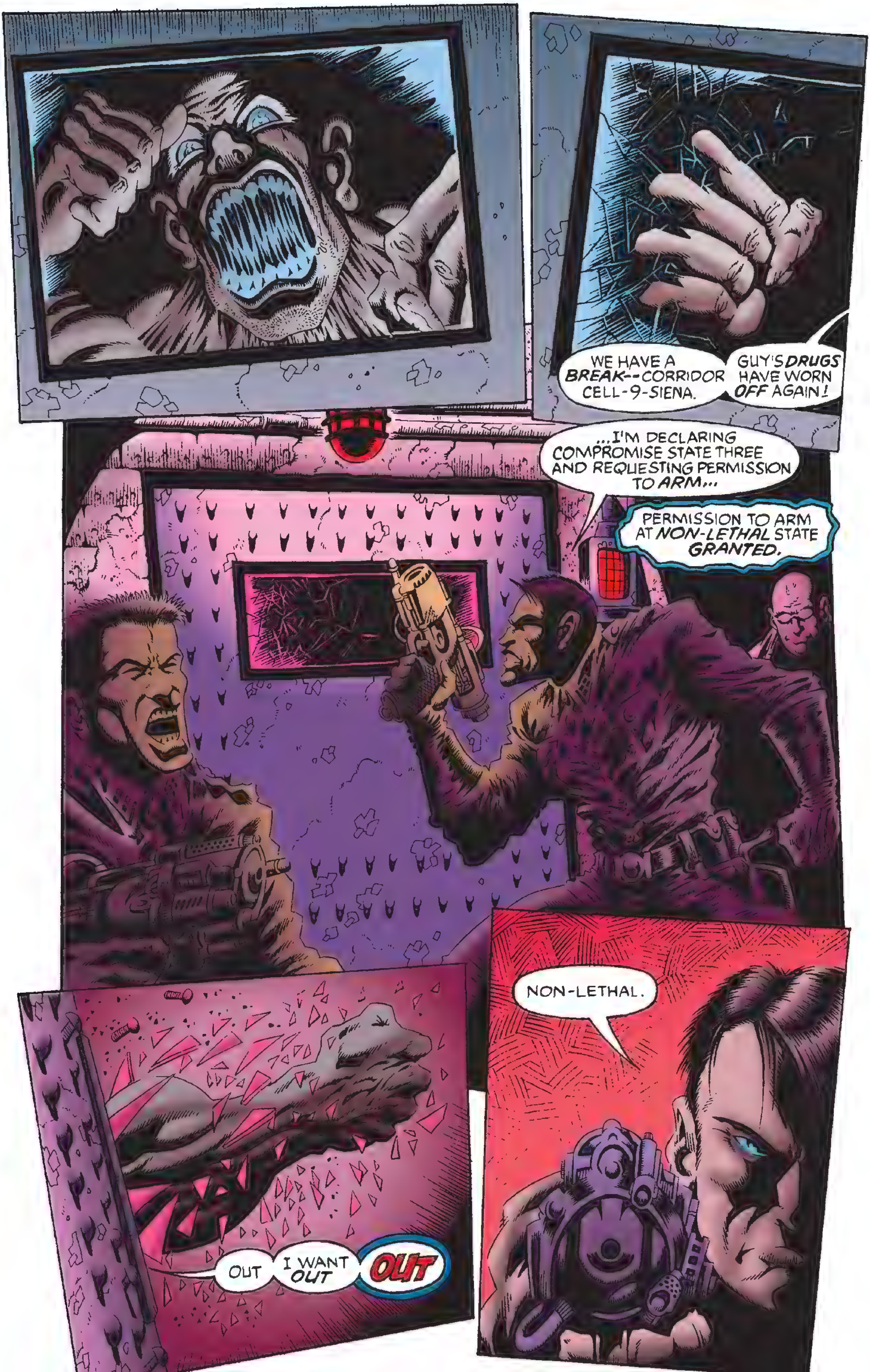
[redacted]

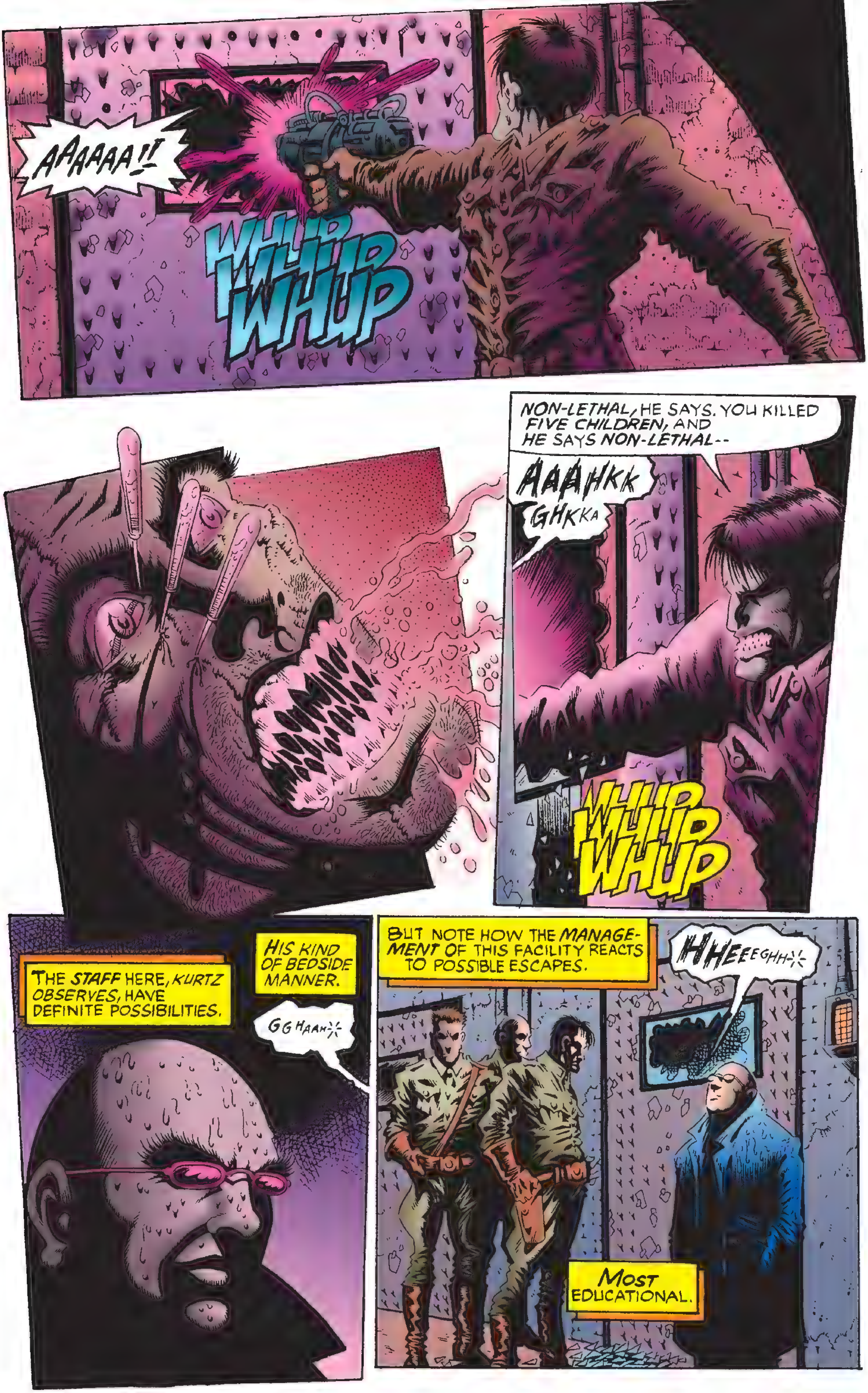

MY BLOOD WANTS TO KILL YOU.
HE'S LAUGHING TO HIMSELF UNDER COVER OF THE CLATTERING RAIN.
HE'S GLAD OF THE BLANKET OF NOISE.
HIS LAUGH ALWAYS TELLS PEOPLE TOO MUCH ABOUT HIM.
MY BLOOD WANTS SOME DINNER!

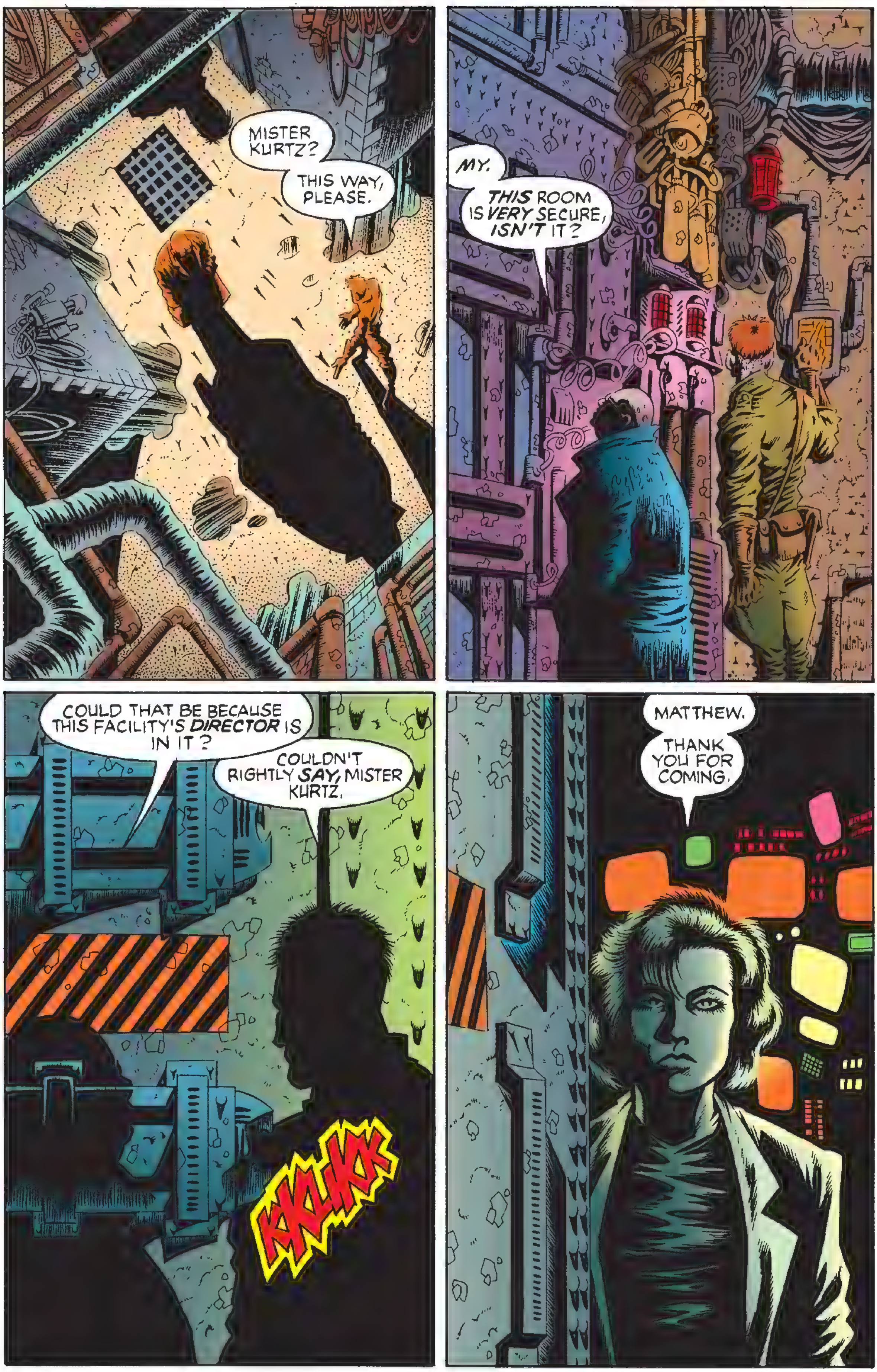

YOU HEAR ME OUT THERE? YOU HEAR ME, YOU LOVELY GOOD PEOPLE?
WE'RE TALKING TO YOU! ME AND MY BLOOD, WE'RE... HAHAHAH
CLETUS KASADY
LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE.
AT LEAST HE'S STOPPED SINGING.
MATTHEW KURTZ.
I WOULDN'T MIND, BUT HE CAN NEVER MAKE THOSE SWEAR WORDS RHYME-- OH, EXCUSE ME--
COLONEL JAMESON, WE GOT A VISITOR HERE. CAN YOU OR DOC KAFKA CONFIRM...

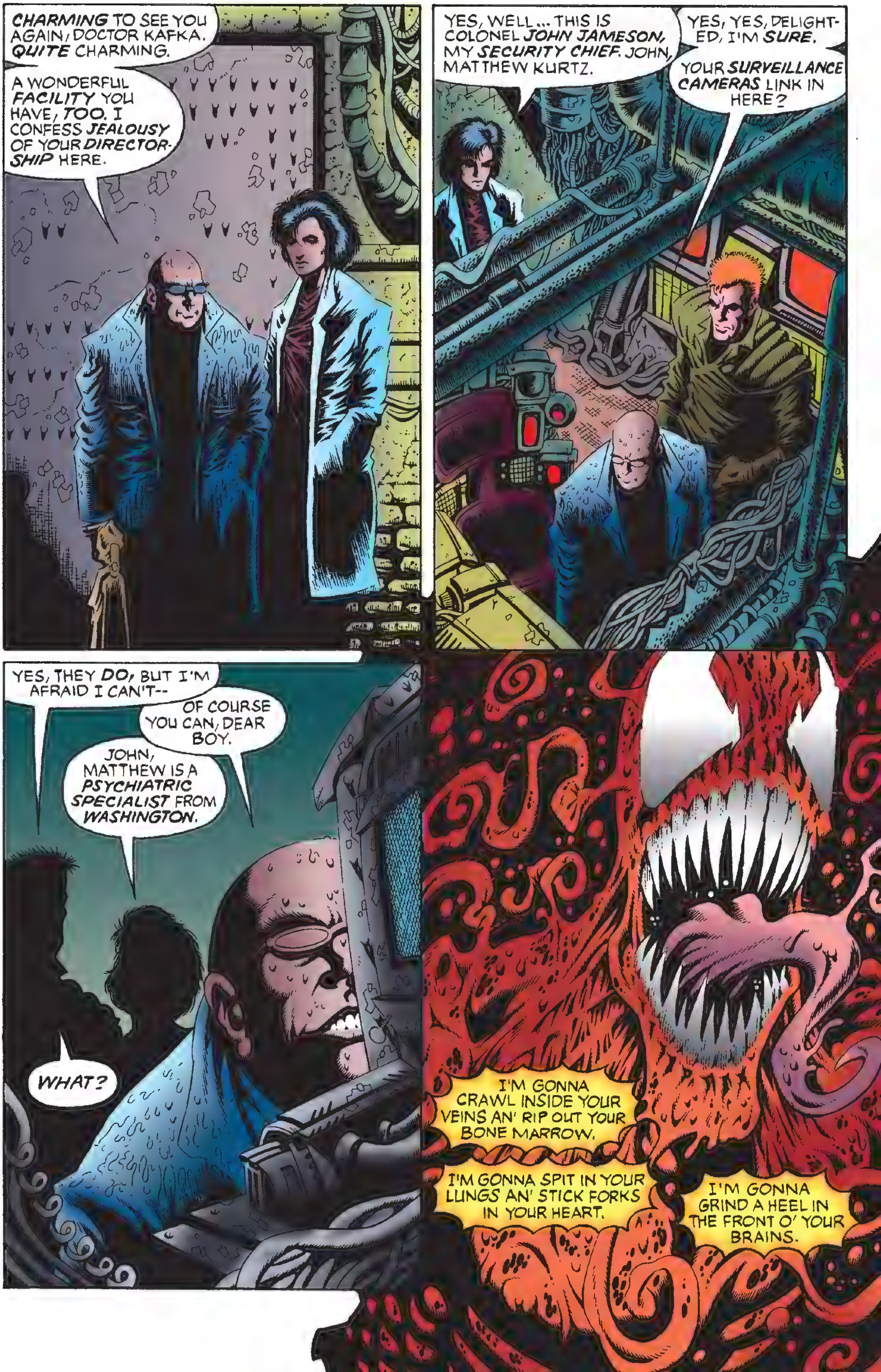

THAT'LL BE MATTHEW KURTZ, JOHN. LET HIM IN.
KURTZ, YEAH, *THAT'S* HIM.
AH.
YOU *KNOW*, Dr. KAFKA, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO *INFORM* ME OF VISITORS IN *ADVANCE*...
I KNOW, JOHN. MAYBE I WAS JUST HOPING HE WOULDN'T *COME*.
WELCOME TO *RAVENCROFT*, MISTER KURTZ.
I SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER.
KURTZ *ALWAYS* TURNS UP--
--WHEN THERE'S *HORROR* INVOLVED, KURTZ *ALWAYS* TURNS UP.

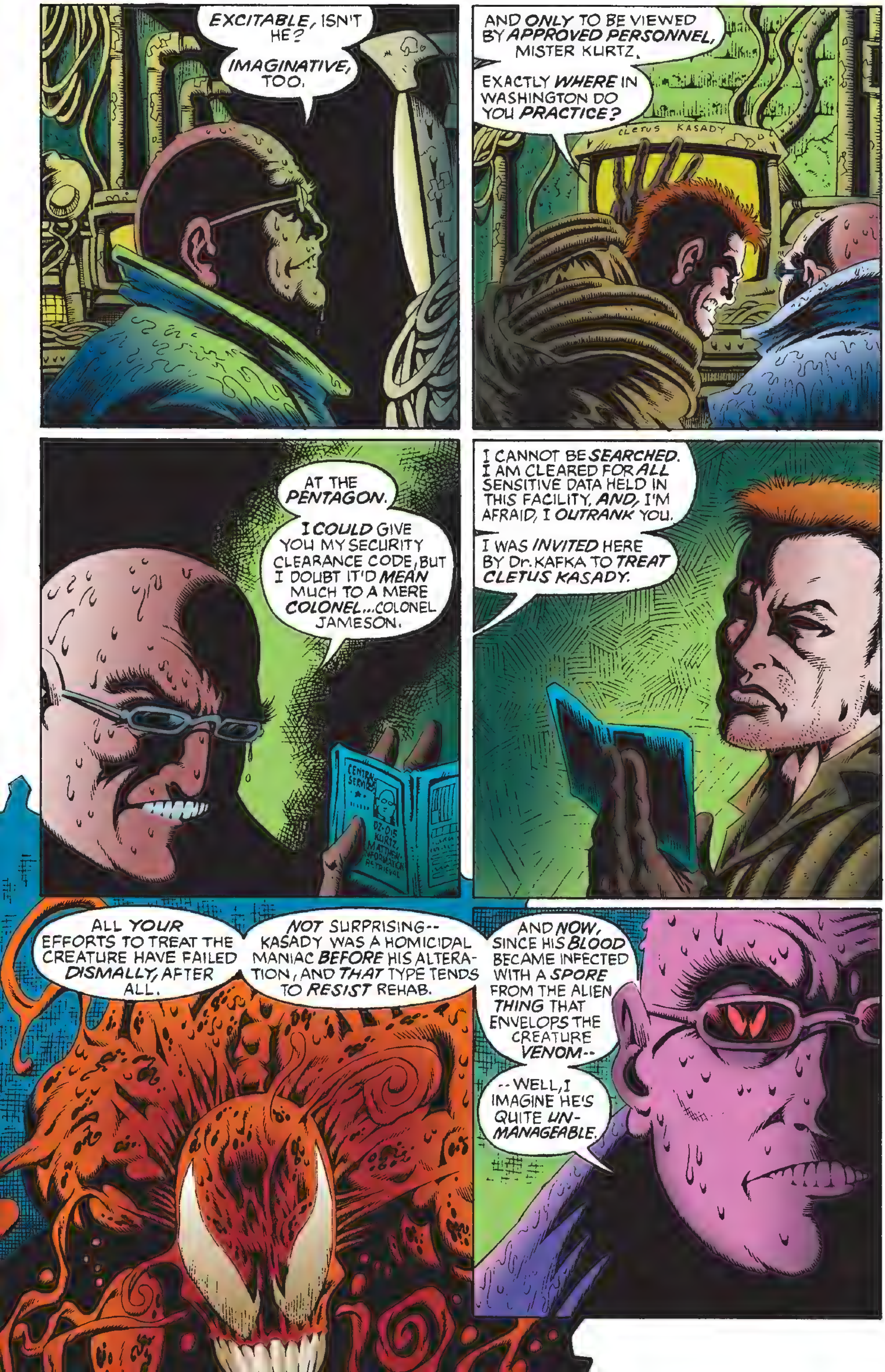

THEY LIKE TO WATCH, KURTZ NOTES.
RECALLING THE NUMBER OF ESCAPES MADE FROM THIS FACILITY, HE CAN'T HELP BUT BE A LITTLE CONTEMPTUOUS OF THEIR SAD, WHIRRING EYES.
KURTZ DID NOT EXPECT THE PLACE TO BE SO QUIET.
THE INSECT SOUNDTRACK OF THE CAMERA'S SLOW, WATCHFUL ARCS IS THE LOUDEST THING IN THE BUILDING.
IT'S LIKE WALKING THROUGH SOME TERRIBLE GALLERY.
KURTZ ADMIRES THE QUALITY OF THE SOUNDPROOFING.
KURTZ LIKES IT HERE.

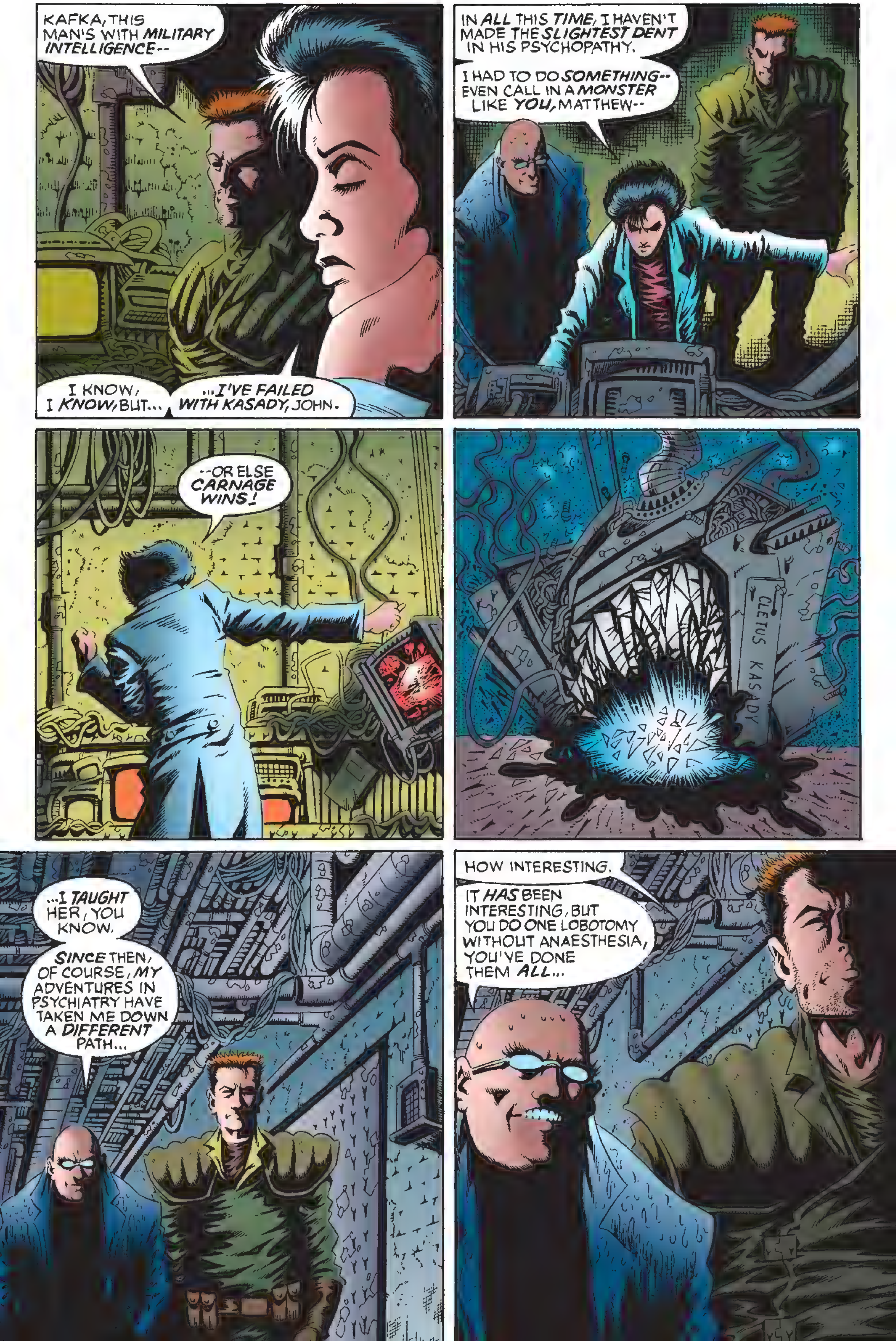

WE HAVE A *BREAK*--CORRIDOR CELL-9-SIENA.
GUY'S *DRUGS* HAVE WORN *OFF* AGAIN!
...I'M DECLARING COMPROMISE STATE THREE AND REQUESTING PERMISSION TO *ARM*...
PERMISSION TO ARM AT *NON-LETHAL* STATE *GRANTED.*
OUT
I WANT *OUT*
OUT
NON-LETHAL.

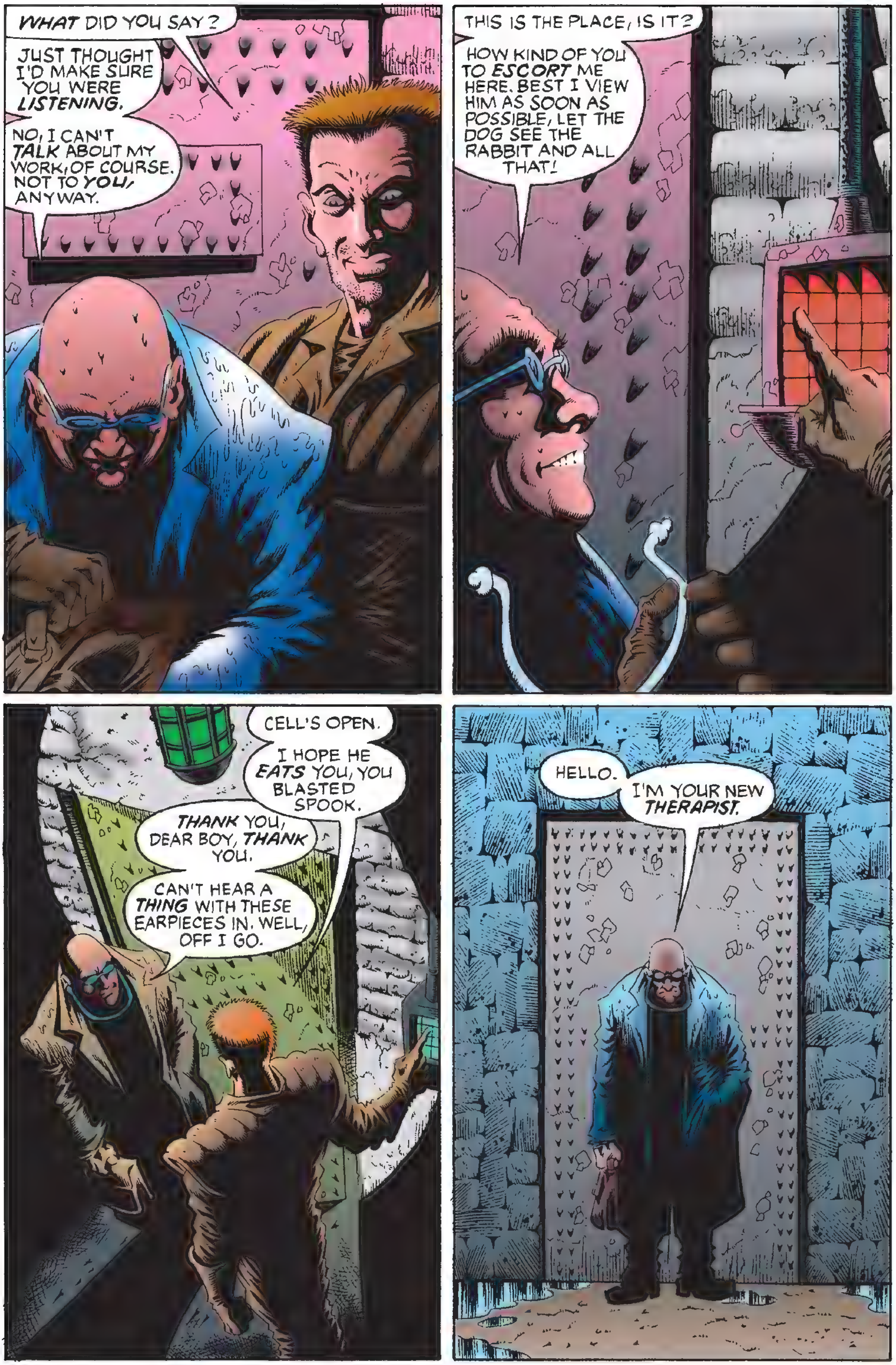

AAAAAA!!
WHUP WHUP WHUP
NON-LETHAL, HE SAYS. YOU KILLED FIVE CHILDREN, AND HE SAYS NON-LETHAL--
AAAHKK GHKKA
WHUP WHUP WHUP
THE STAFF HERE, KURTZ OBSERVES, HAVE DEFINITE POSSIBILITIES.
HIS KIND OF BEDSIDE MANNER.
GGHAAH!
BUT NOTE HOW THE MANAGEMENT OF THIS FACILITY REACTS TO POSSIBLE ESCAPES.
HHEEEEGHH!
MOST EDUCATIONAL.

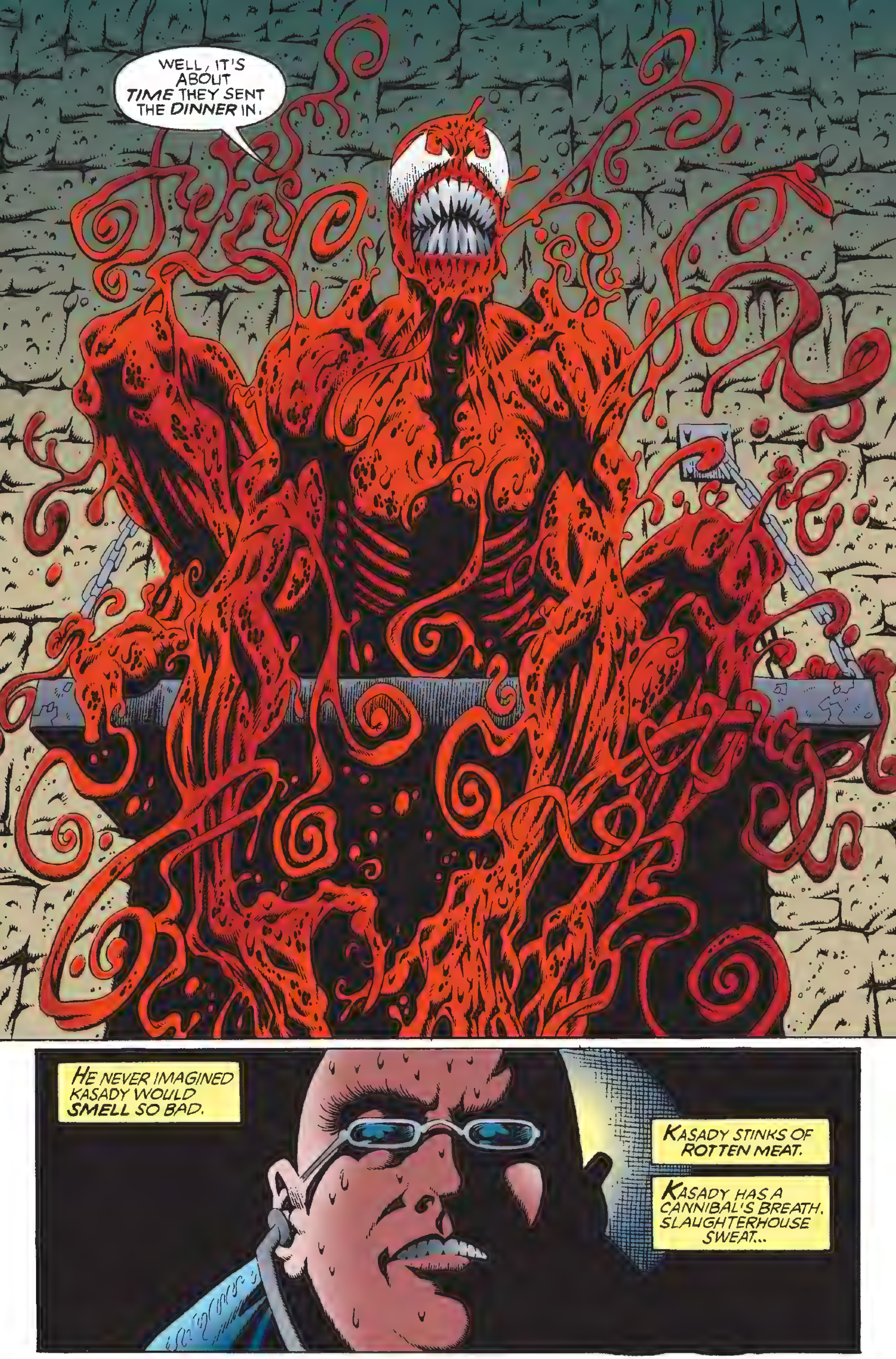

MISTER KURTZ?
THIS WAY, PLEASE.
MY.
THIS ROOM IS *VERY* SECURE, *ISN'T* IT?
COULD THAT BE BECAUSE THIS FACILITY'S *DIRECTOR* IS IN IT?
COULDN'T RIGHTLY *SAY,* MISTER KURTZ.
KKLUKK
MATTHEW.
THANK YOU FOR COMING.

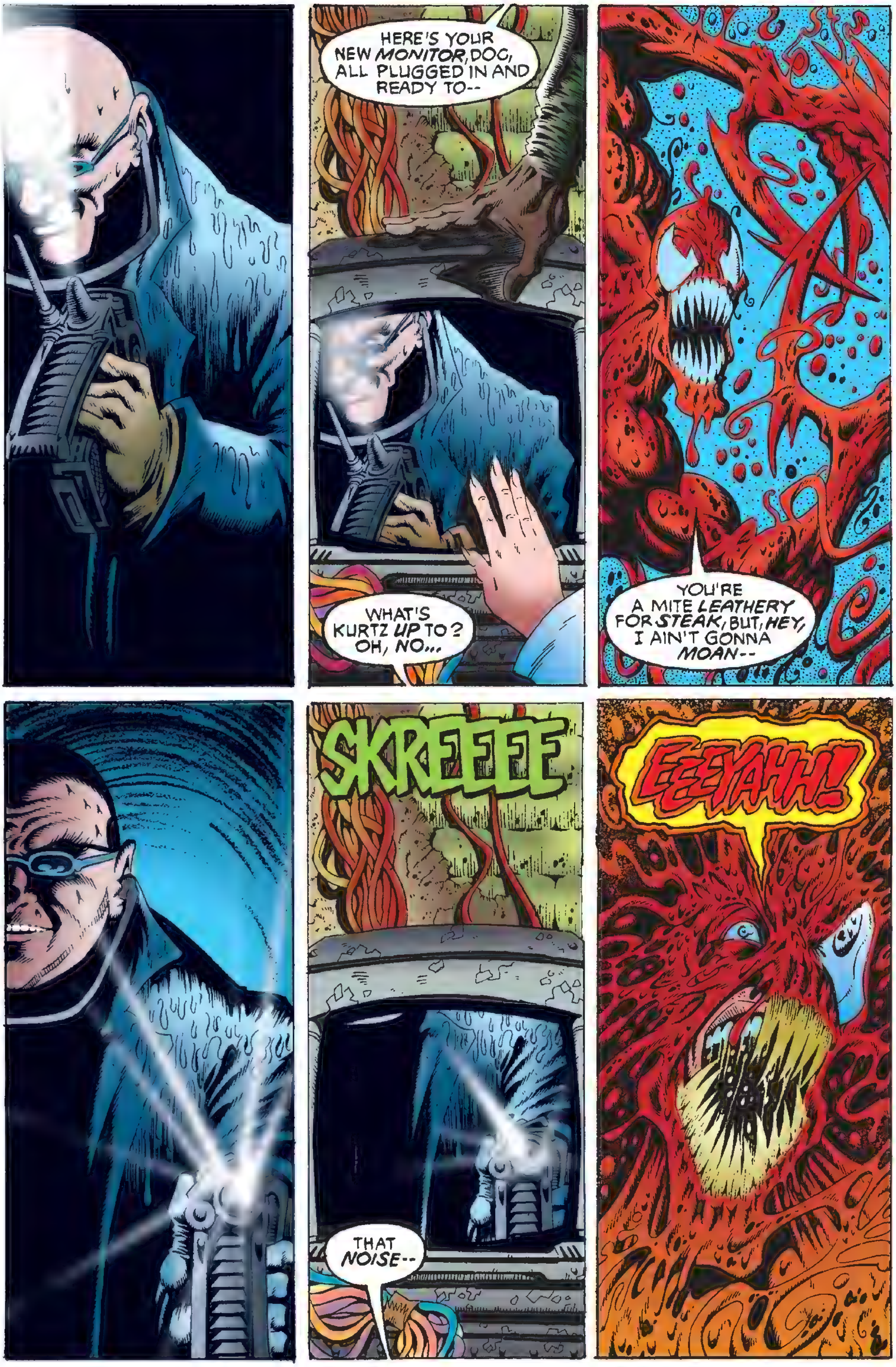

CHARMING TO SEE YOU AGAIN, DOCTOR KAFKA. QUITE CHARMING.
A WONDERFUL FACILITY YOU HAVE, TOO. I CONFESS JEALOUSY OF YOUR DIRECTORSHIP HERE.
YES, WELL... THIS IS COLONEL JOHN JAMESON, MY SECURITY CHIEF. JOHN, MATTHEW KURTZ.
YES, YES, DELIGHTED, I'M SURE.
YOUR SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS LINK IN HERE?
YES, THEY DO, BUT I'M AFRAID I CAN'T--
OF COURSE YOU CAN, DEAR BOY.
JOHN, MATTHEW IS A PSYCHIATRIC SPECIALIST FROM WASHINGTON.
WHAT?
I'M GONNA CRAWL INSIDE YOUR VEINS AN' RIP OUT YOUR BONE MARROW.
I'M GONNA SPIT IN YOUR LUNGS AN' STICK FORKS IN YOUR HEART.
I'M GONNA GRIND A HEEL IN THE FRONT O' YOUR BRAINS.

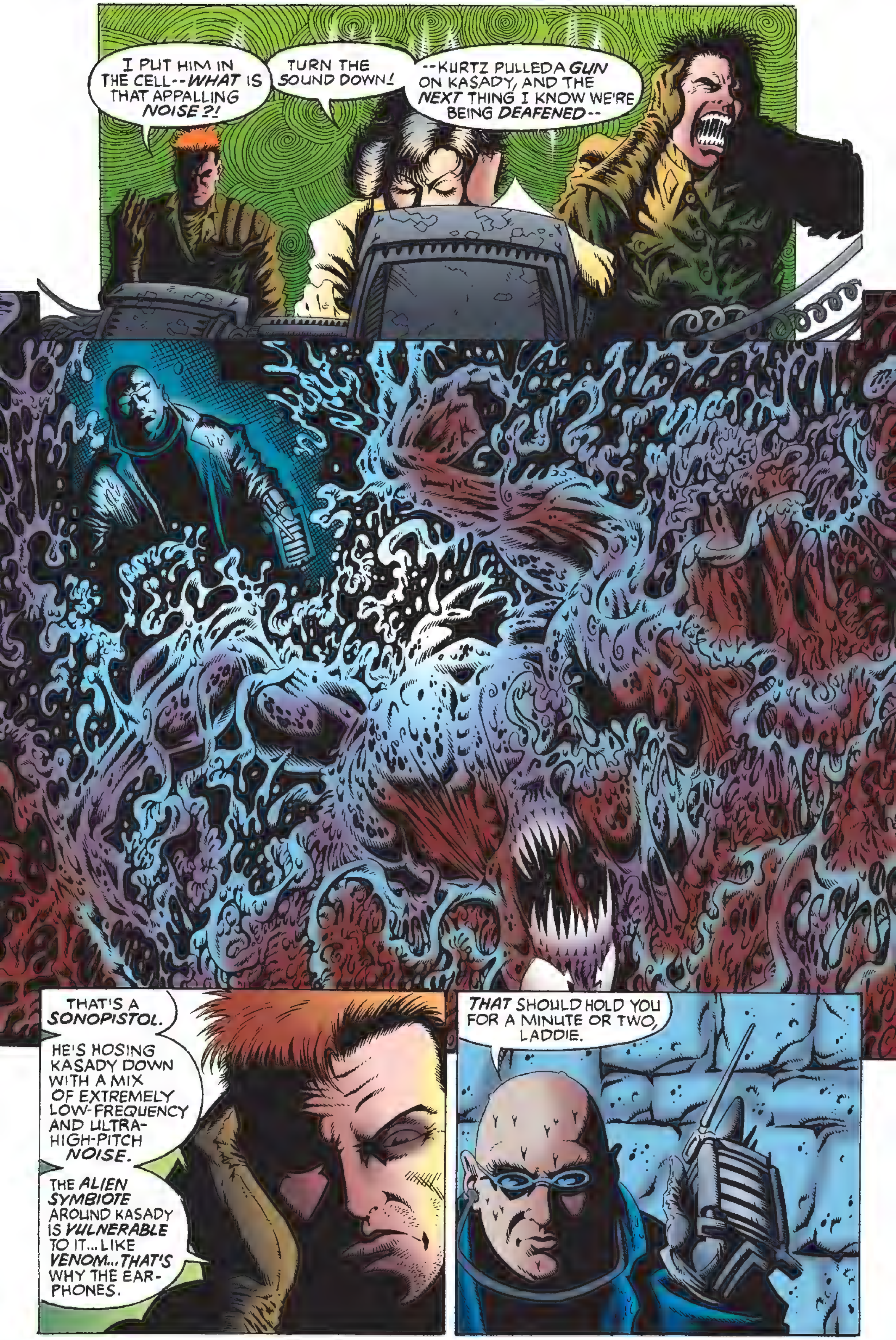

EXCITABLE, ISN'T HE?
IMAGINATIVE, TOO.
AND ONLY TO BE VIEWED BY APPROVED PERSONNEL, MISTER KURTZ.
EXACTLY WHERE IN WASHINGTON DO YOU PRACTICE?
CLETUS KASADY
AT THE PENTAGON.
I COULD GIVE YOU MY SECURITY CLEARANCE CODE, BUT I DOUBT IT'D MEAN MUCH TO A MERE COLONEL... COLONEL JAMESON.
CENTRAL SERVICES
02-015 KURTZ, MATTHEW INFORMATION RETRIEVAL
I CANNOT BE SEARCHED. I AM CLEARED FOR ALL SENSITIVE DATA HELD IN THIS FACILITY, AND, I'M AFRAID, I OUTRANK YOU.
I WAS INVITED HERE BY Dr. KAFKA TO TREAT CLETUS KASADY.
ALL YOUR EFFORTS TO TREAT THE CREATURE HAVE FAILED DISMALLY, AFTER ALL.
NOT SURPRISING-- KASADY WAS A HOMICIDAL MANIAC BEFORE HIS ALTERATION, AND THAT TYPE TENDS TO RESIST REHAB.
AND NOW, SINCE HIS BLOOD BECAME INFECTED WITH A SPORE FROM THE ALIEN THING THAT ENVELOPS THE CREATURE VENOM--
--WELL, I IMAGINE HE'S QUITE UNMANAGEABLE.

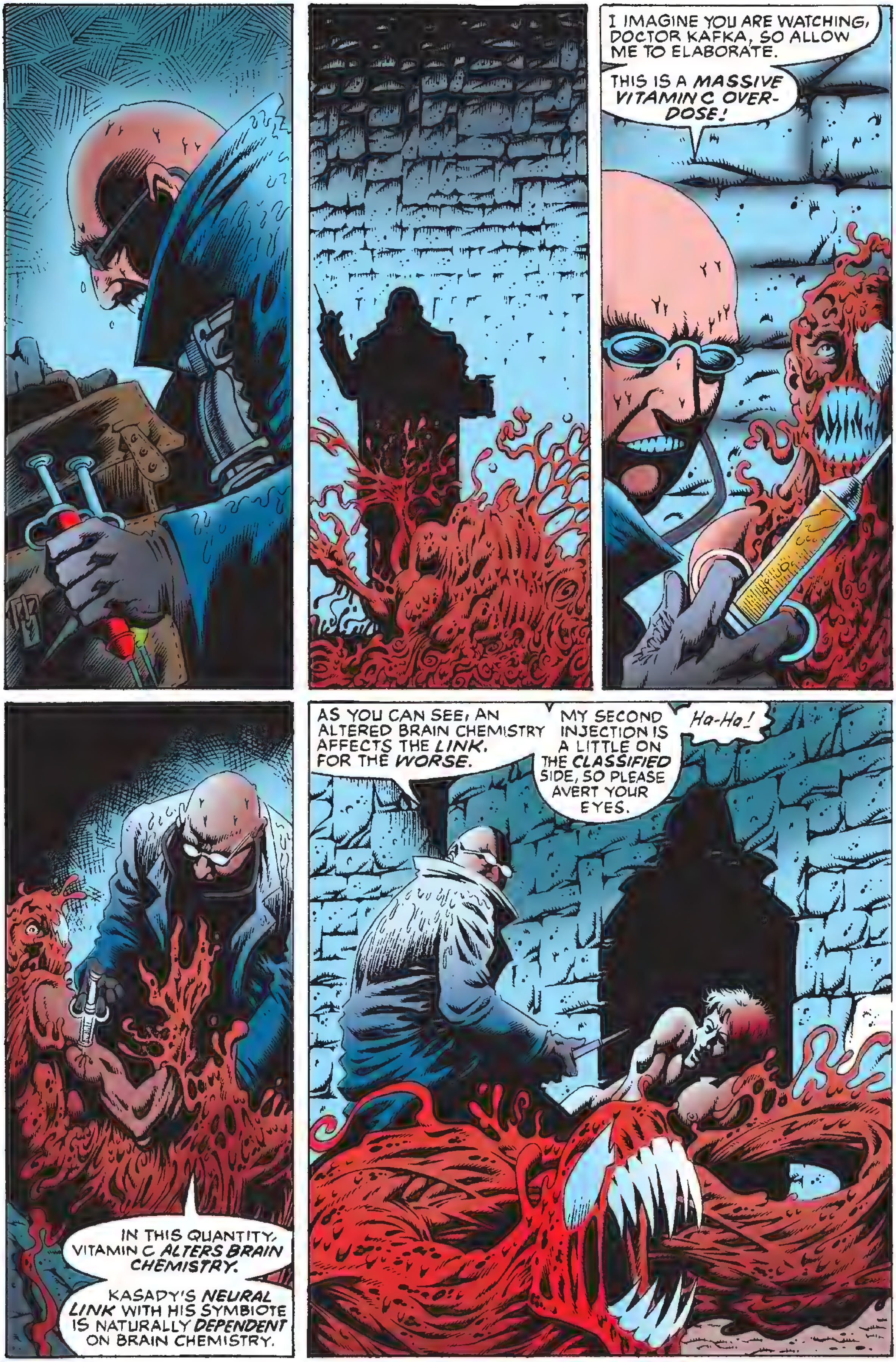

KAFKA, THIS MAN'S WITH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE--
I KNOW, I KNOW, BUT...
...I'VE FAILED WITH KASADY, JOHN.
IN ALL THIS TIME, I HAVEN'T MADE THE SLIGHTEST DENT IN HIS PSYCHOPATHY.
I HAD TO DO SOMETHING-- EVEN CALL IN A MONSTER LIKE YOU, MATTHEW--
--OR ELSE CARNAGE WINS!
CLETUS KASADY
...I TAUGHT HER, YOU KNOW.
SINCE THEN, OF COURSE, MY ADVENTURES IN PSYCHIATRY HAVE TAKEN ME DOWN A DIFFERENT PATH...
HOW INTERESTING.
IT HAS BEEN INTERESTING, BUT YOU DO ONE LOBOTOMY WITHOUT ANAESTHESIA, YOU'VE DONE THEM ALL...

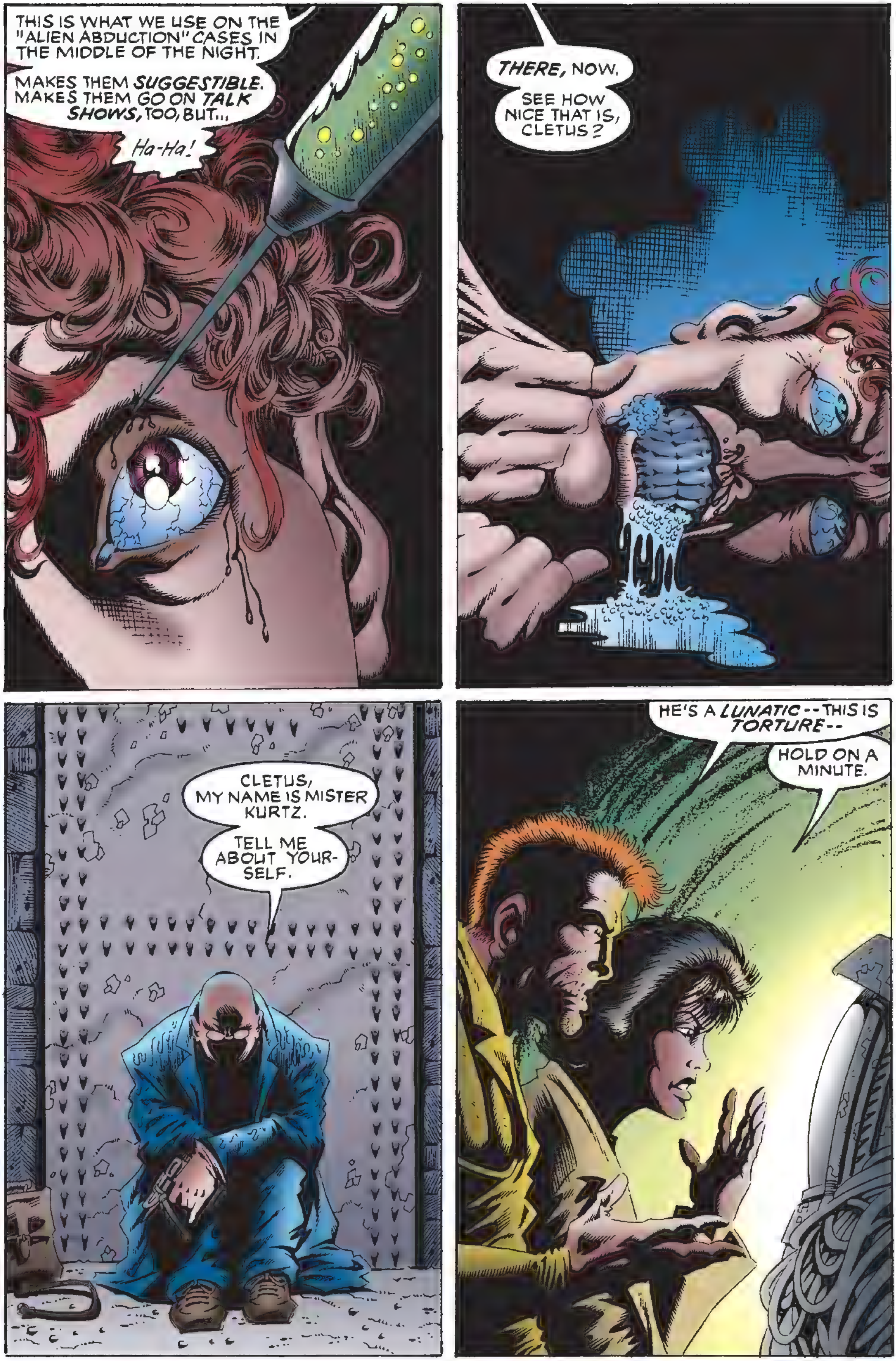

WHAT DID YOU SAY?
JUST THOUGHT I'D MAKE SURE YOU WERE *LISTENING.*
NO, I CAN'T *TALK* ABOUT MY WORK, OF COURSE. NOT TO *YOU,* ANYWAY.
THIS IS THE PLACE, IS IT?
HOW KIND OF YOU TO *ESCORT* ME HERE. BEST I VIEW HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, LET THE DOG SEE THE RABBIT AND ALL THAT!
CELL'S OPEN.
I HOPE HE *EATS* YOU, YOU BLASTED SPOOK.
THANK YOU, DEAR BOY, *THANK* YOU.
CAN'T HEAR A *THING* WITH THESE EARPIECES IN. WELL, OFF I GO.
HELLO.
I'M YOUR NEW *THERAPIST.*

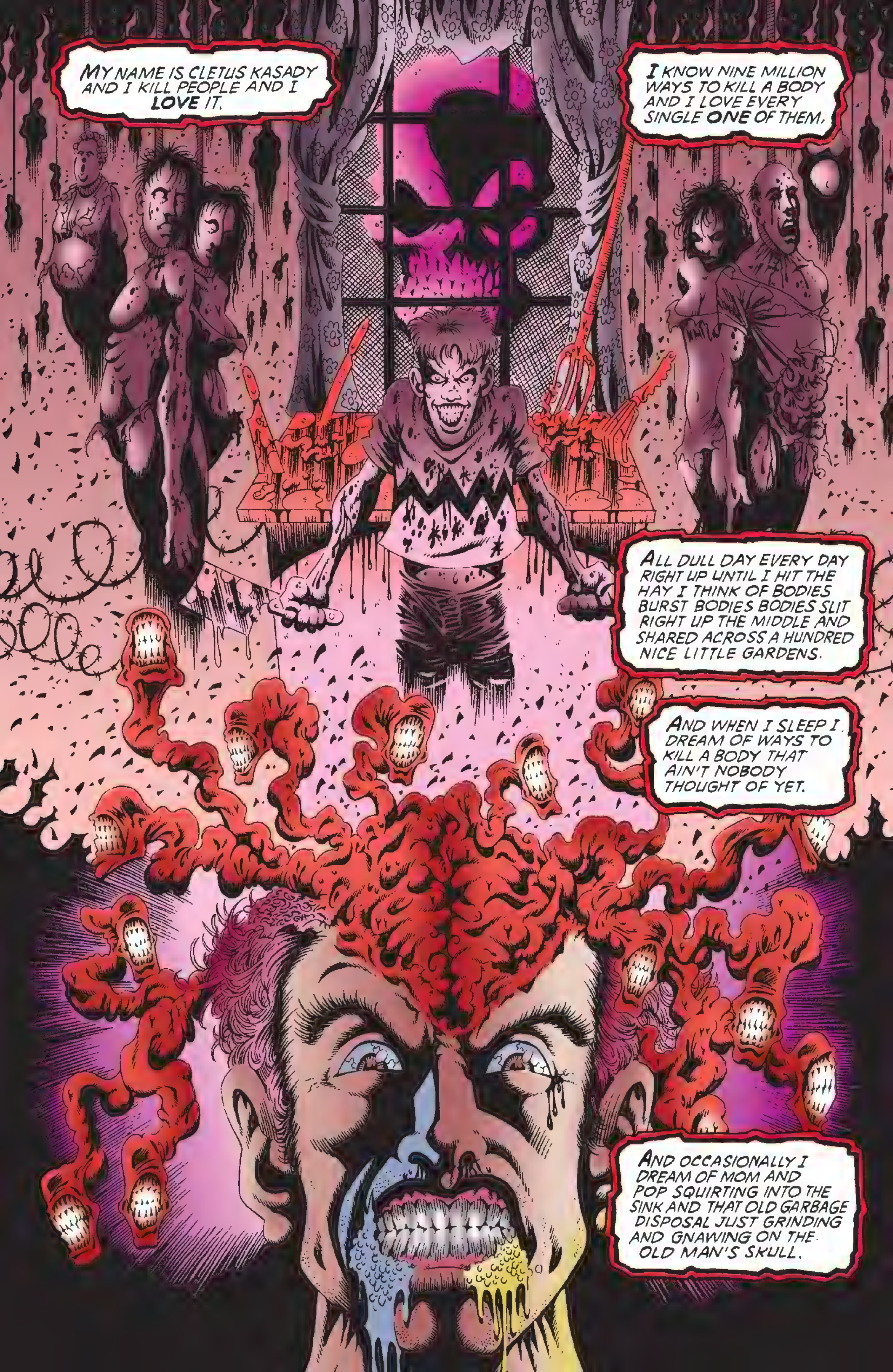

WELL, IT'S ABOUT *TIME* THEY SENT THE *DINNER* IN.
HE NEVER IMAGINED KASADY WOULD **SMELL** SO BAD.
KASADY STINKS OF ROTTEN MEAT.
KASADY HAS A CANNIBAL'S BREATH. SLAUGHTERHOUSE SWEAT...

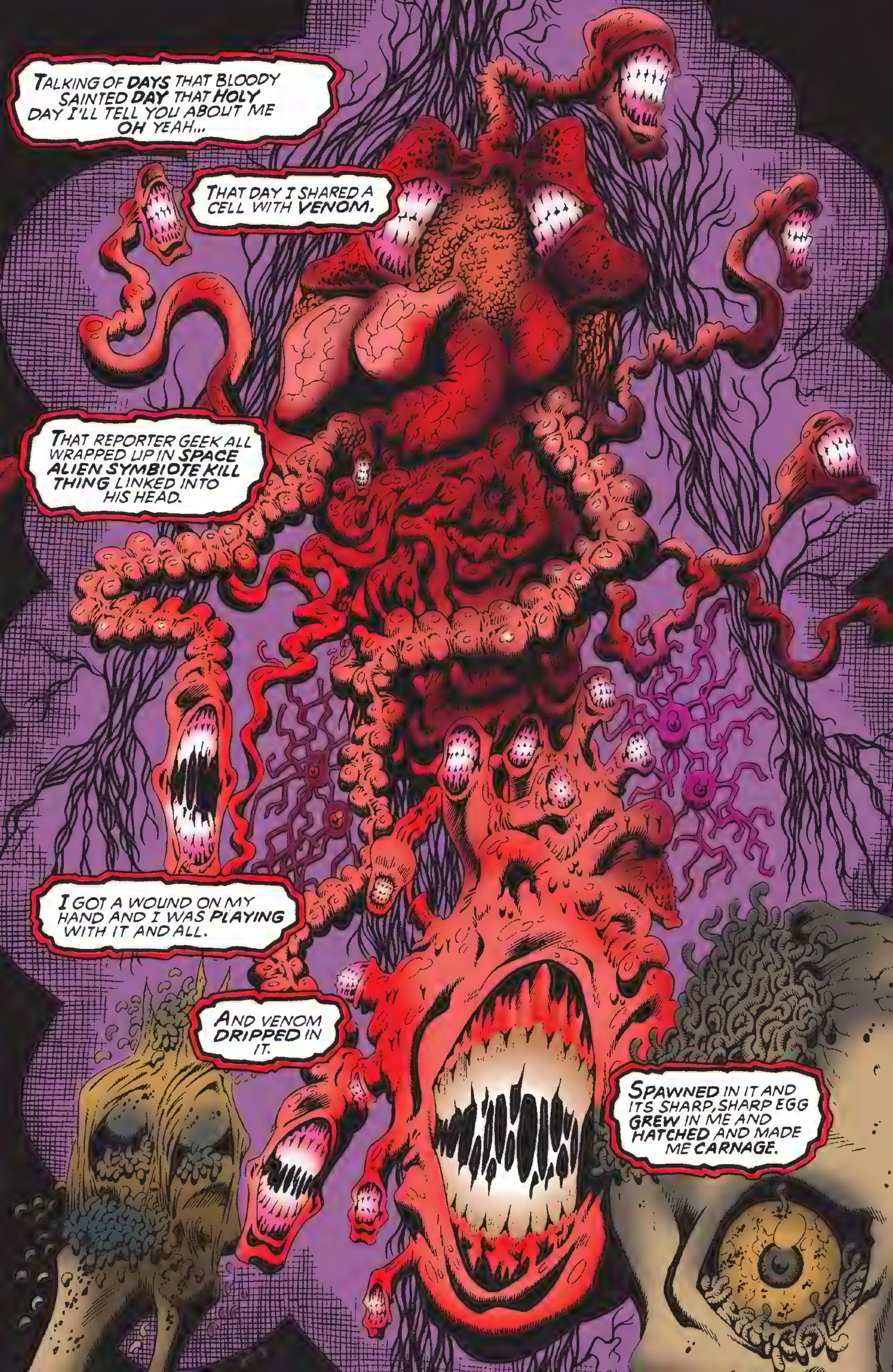

HERE'S YOUR NEW *MONITOR*, DOC, ALL PLUGGED IN AND READY TO--
WHAT'S KURTZ *UP* TO? OH, *NO*...
YOU'RE A MITE *LEATHERY* FOR *STEAK*, BUT, *HEY*, I AIN'T GONNA *MOAN*--
SKREEEE
THAT *NOISE*--
EEEYAHH!

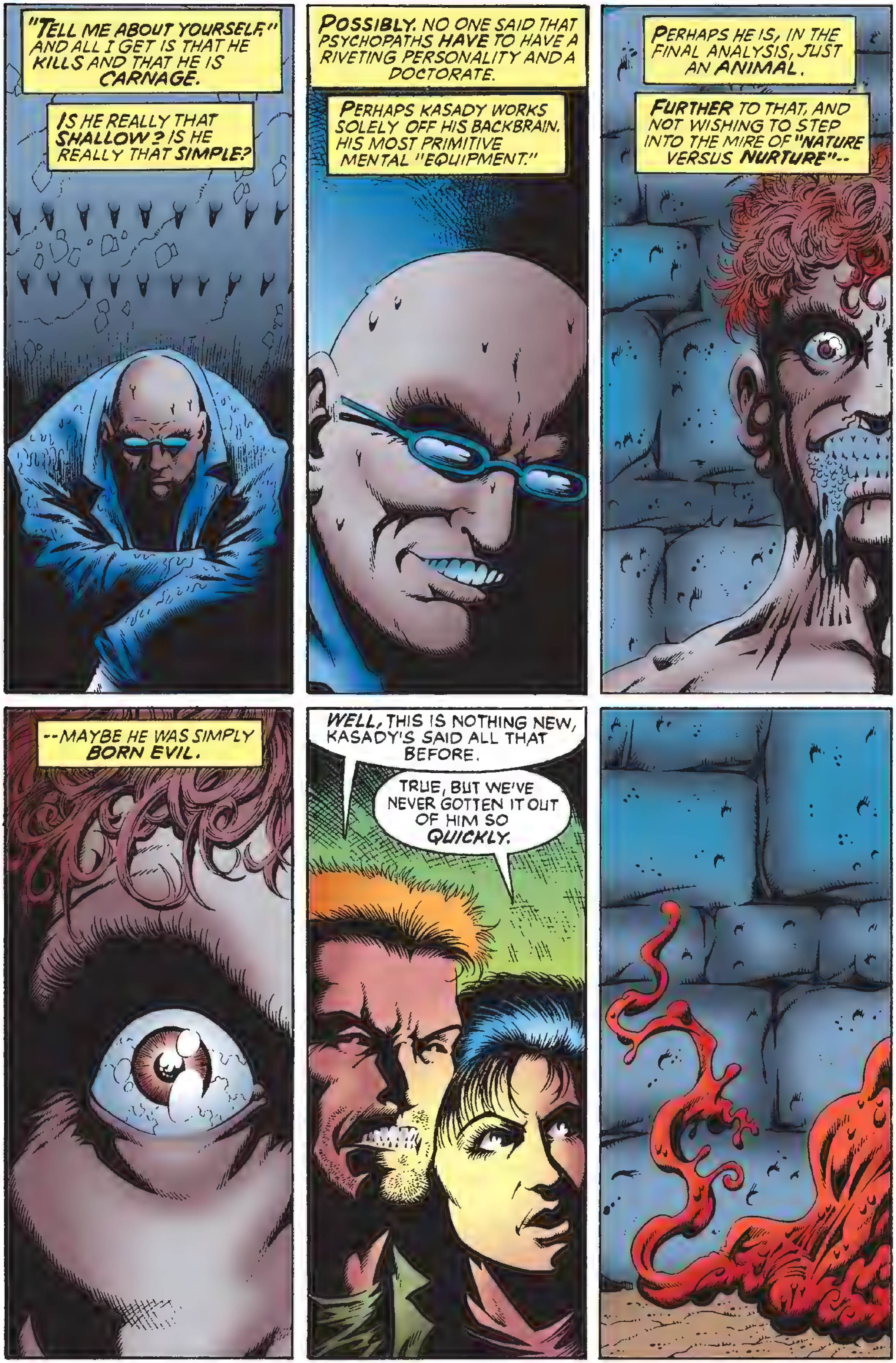

I PUT HIM IN THE CELL--*WHAT* IS THAT APPALLING *NOISE*?!
TURN THE SOUND DOWN!
--KURTZ PULLED A *GUN* ON KASADY, AND THE *NEXT* THING I KNOW WE'RE BEING *DEAFENED*--
THAT'S A *SONOPISTOL.*
HE'S HOSING KASADY DOWN WITH A MIX OF EXTREMELY LOW-FREQUENCY AND ULTRA-HIGH-PITCH *NOISE.*
THE *ALIEN SYMBIOTE* AROUND KASADY IS *VULNERABLE* TO IT...LIKE *VENOM*...*THAT'S* WHY THE EARPHONES.
THAT SHOULD HOLD YOU FOR A MINUTE OR TWO, LADDIE.

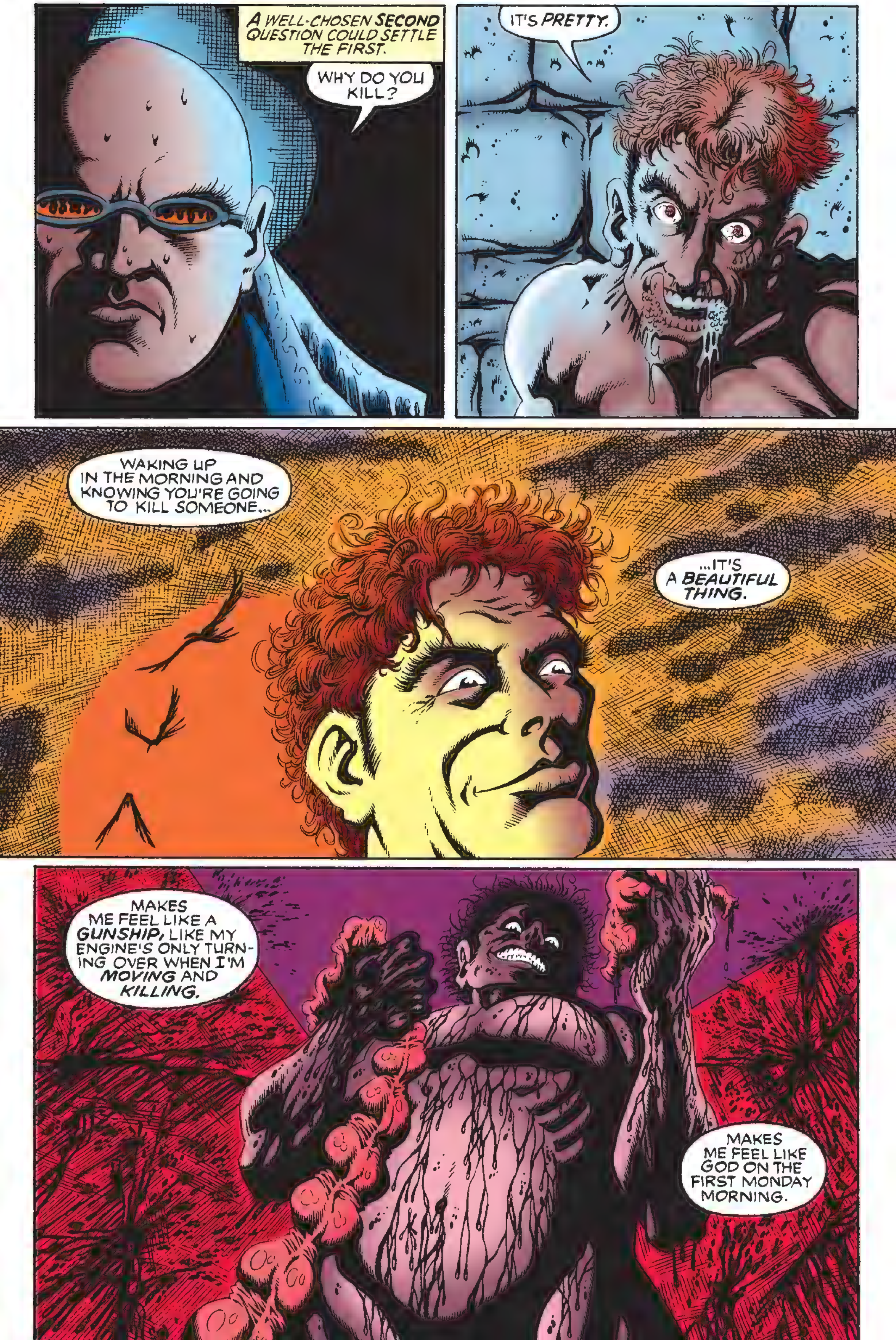

I IMAGINE YOU ARE WATCHING, DOCTOR KAFKA, SO ALLOW ME TO ELABORATE.
THIS IS A MASSIVE VITAMIN C OVERDOSE!
IN THIS QUANTITY, VITAMIN C ALTERS BRAIN CHEMISTRY.
KASADY'S NEURAL LINK WITH HIS SYMBIOTE IS NATURALLY DEPENDENT ON BRAIN CHEMISTRY.
AS YOU CAN SEE, AN ALTERED BRAIN CHEMISTRY AFFECTS THE LINK. FOR THE WORSE.
MY SECOND INJECTION IS A LITTLE ON THE CLASSIFIED SIDE, SO PLEASE AVERT YOUR EYES.
Ha-Ha!

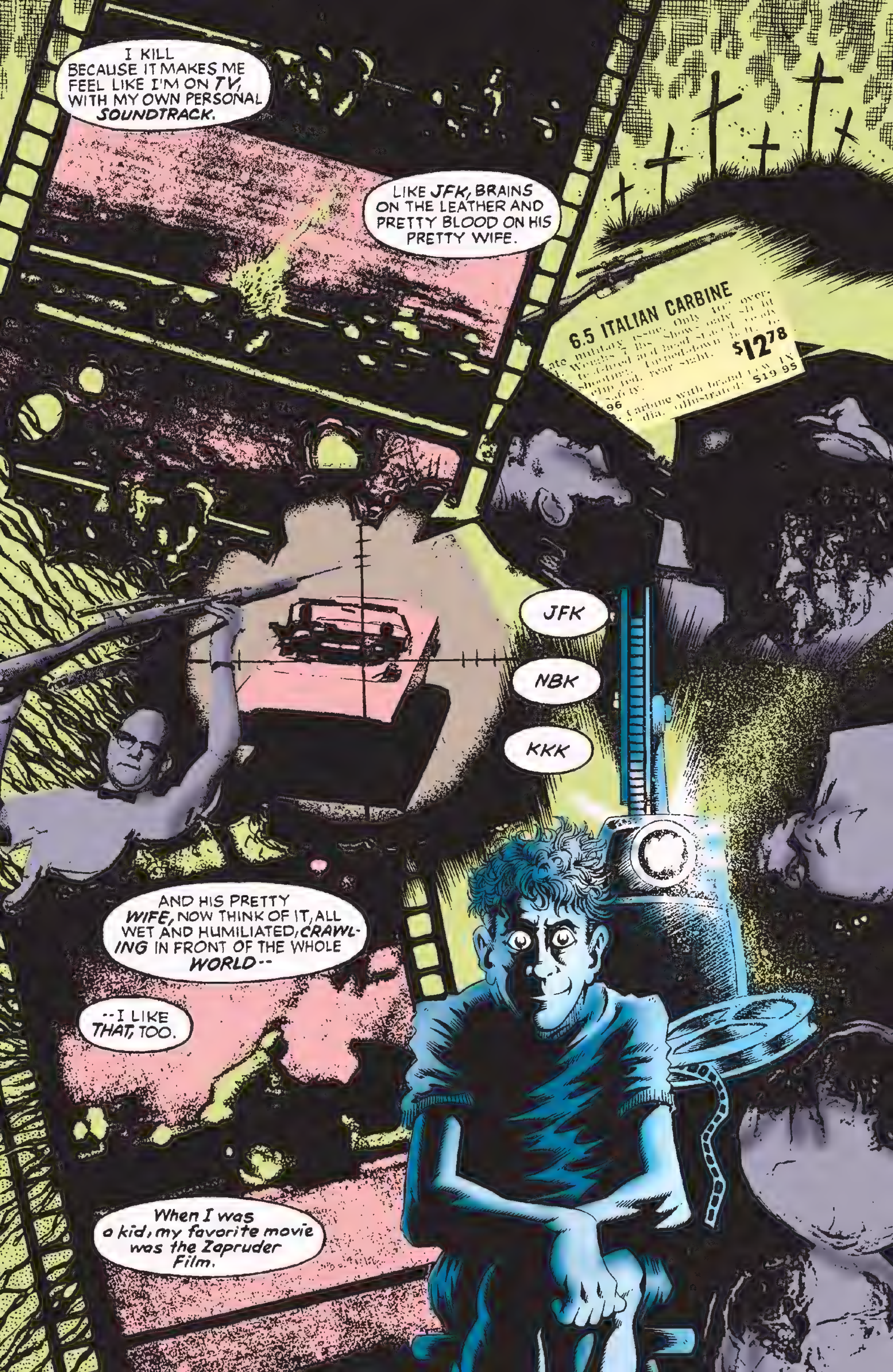

THIS IS WHAT WE USE ON THE "ALIEN ABDUCTION" CASES IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.
MAKES THEM *SUGGESTIBLE*. MAKES THEM GO ON *TALK SHOWS*, TOO, BUT...
Ha-Ha!
THERE, NOW.
SEE HOW NICE THAT IS, CLETUS?
CLETUS, MY NAME IS MISTER KURTZ.
TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF.
HE'S A *LUNATIC*--THIS IS *TORTURE*--
HOLD ON A MINUTE.

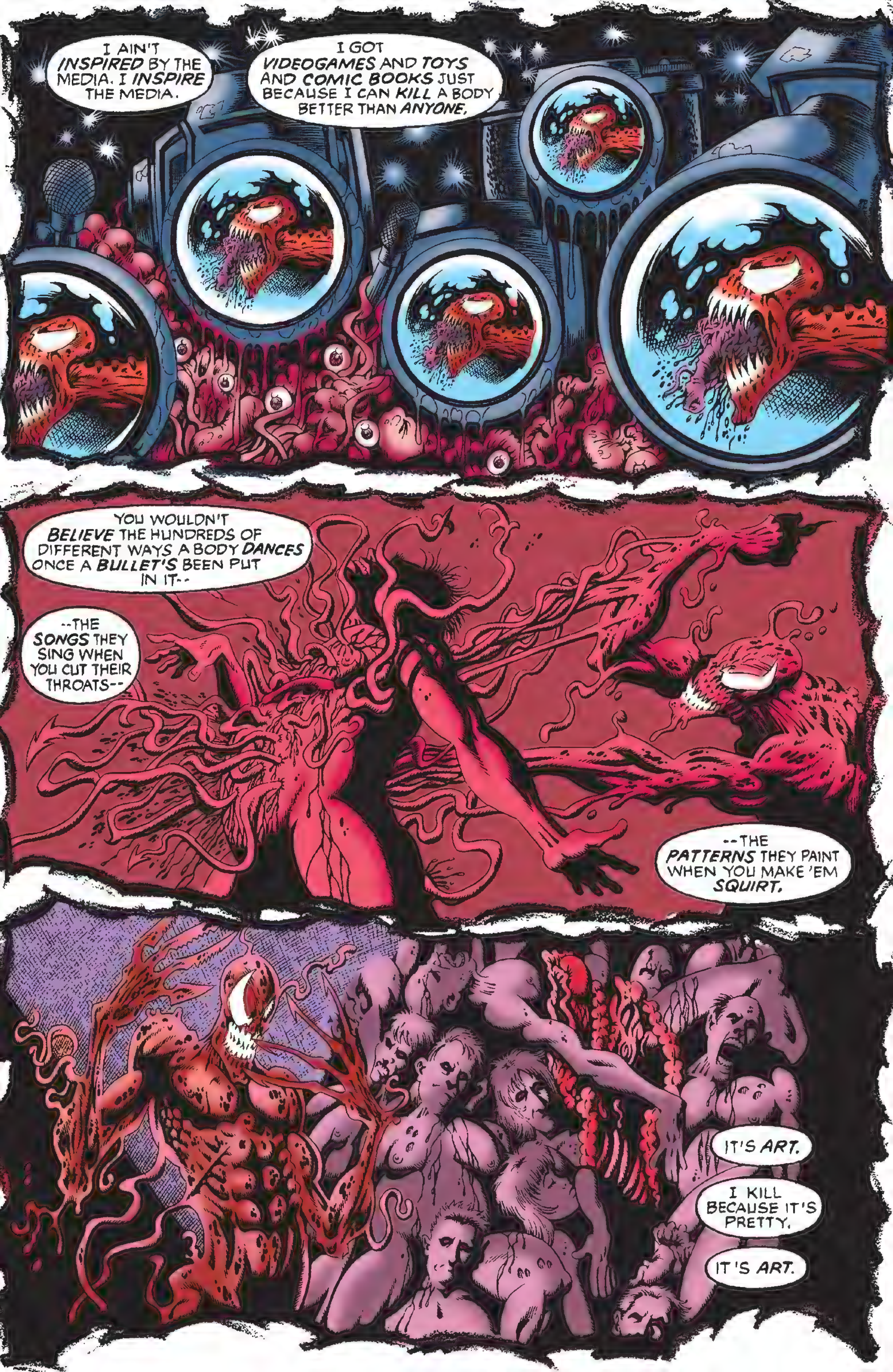

MY NAME IS CLETUS KASADY AND I KILL PEOPLE AND I **LOVE** IT.
I KNOW NINE MILLION WAYS TO KILL A BODY AND I LOVE EVERY SINGLE **ONE** OF THEM.
ALL DULL DAY EVERY DAY RIGHT UP UNTIL I HIT THE HAY I THINK OF BODIES BURST BODIES BODIES SLIT RIGHT UP THE MIDDLE AND SHARED ACROSS A HUNDRED NICE LITTLE GARDENS.
AND WHEN I SLEEP I DREAM OF WAYS TO KILL A BODY THAT AIN'T NOBODY THOUGHT OF YET.
AND OCCASIONALLY I DREAM OF MOM AND POP SQUIRTING INTO THE SINK AND THAT OLD GARBAGE DISPOSAL JUST GRINDING AND GNAWING ON THE OLD MAN'S SKULL.

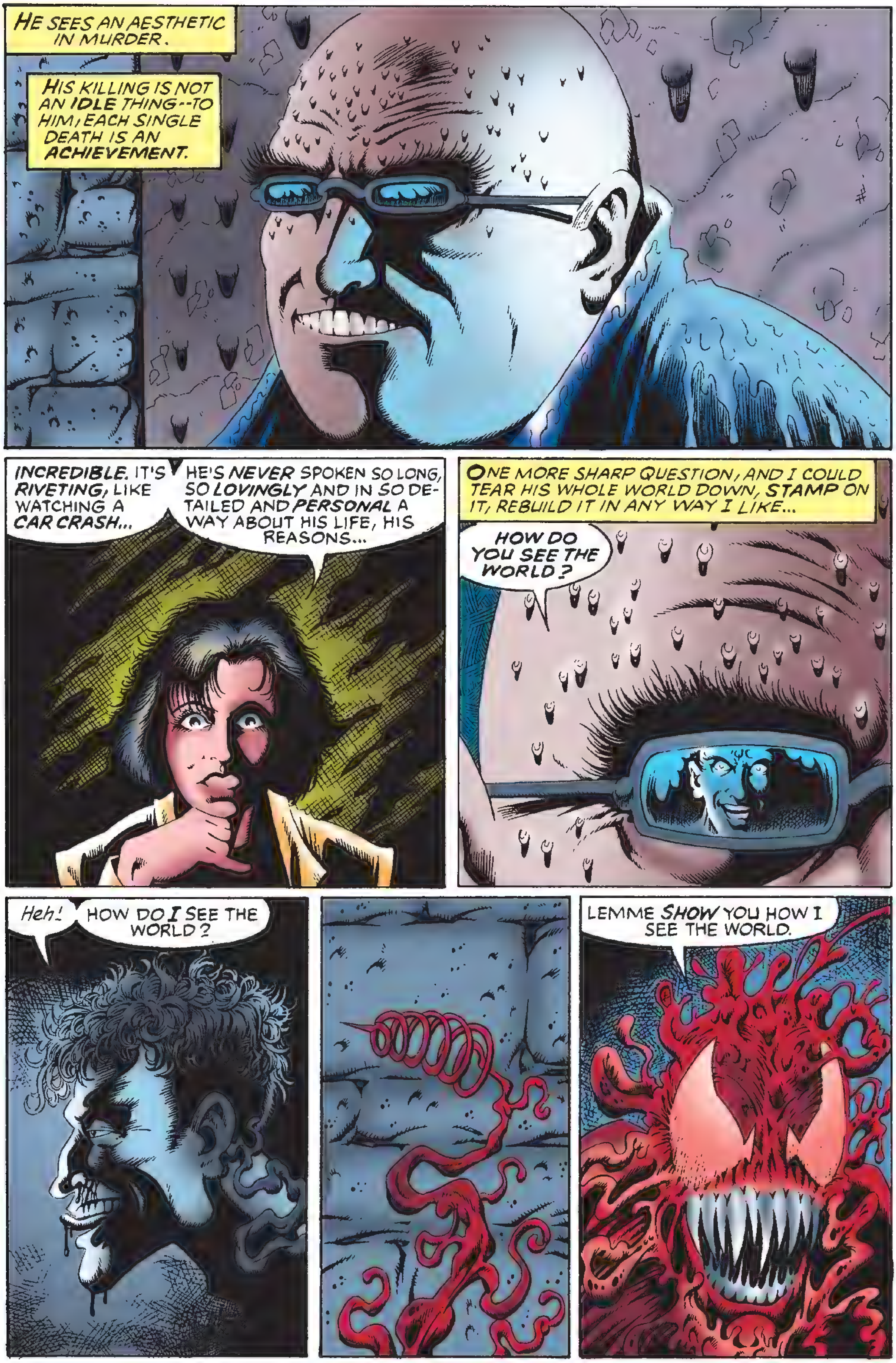

TALKING OF DAYS THAT BLOODY SAINTED DAY THAT HOLY DAY I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT ME OH YEAH...
THAT DAY I SHARED A CELL WITH VENOM.
THAT REPORTER GEEK ALL WRAPPED UP IN SPACE ALIEN SYMBIOTE KILL THING LINKED INTO HIS HEAD.
I GOT A WOUND ON MY HAND AND I WAS PLAYING WITH IT AND ALL.
AND VENOM DRIPPED IN IT.
SPAWNED IN IT AND ITS SHARP, SHARP EGG GREW IN ME AND HATCHED AND MADE ME CARNAGE.

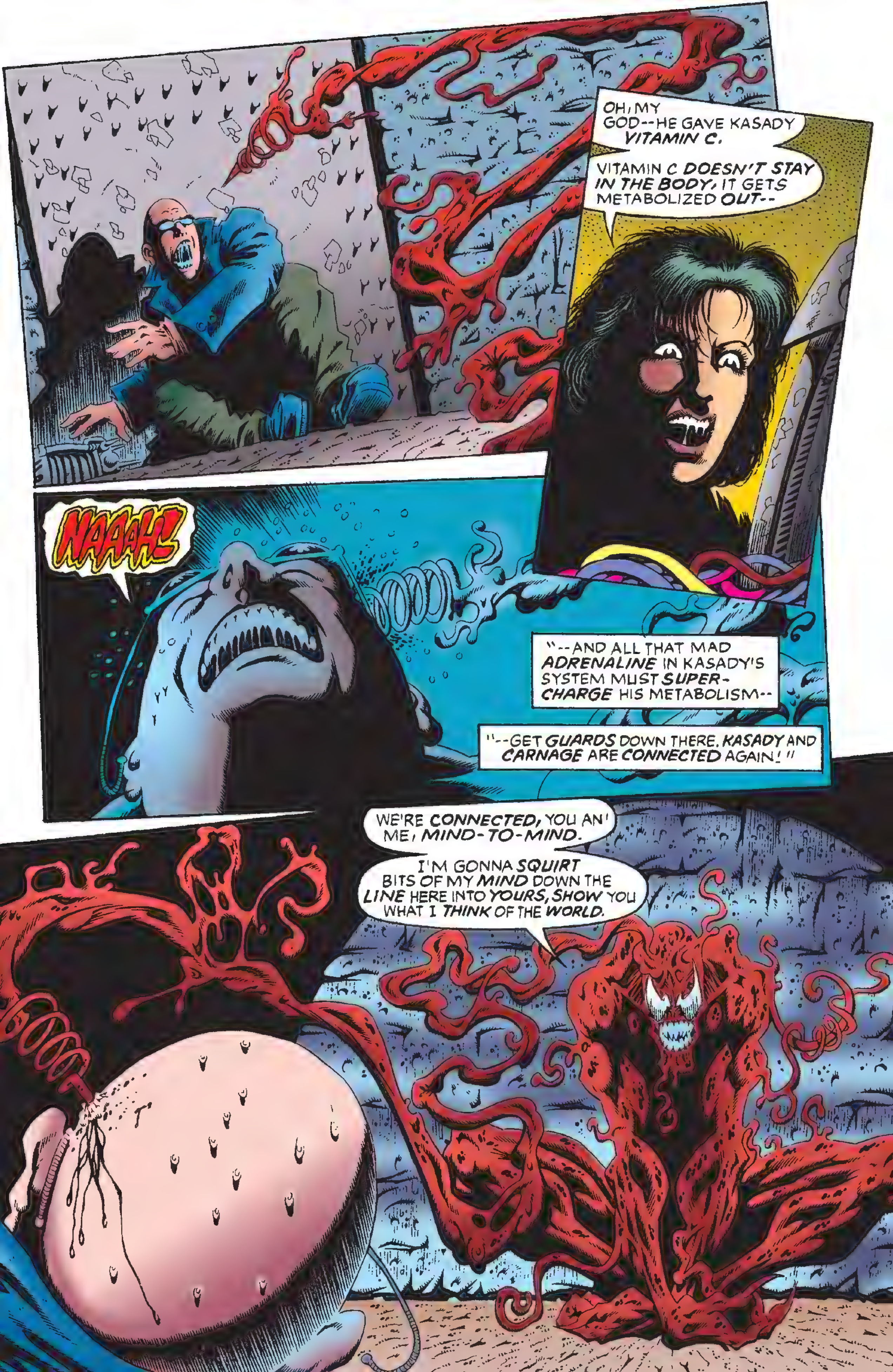

"TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF." AND ALL I GET IS THAT HE KILLS AND THAT HE IS CARNAGE.
IS HE REALLY THAT SHALLOW? IS HE REALLY THAT SIMPLE?
POSSIBLY. NO ONE SAID THAT PSYCHOPATHS HAVE TO HAVE A RIVETING PERSONALITY AND A DOCTORATE.
PERHAPS KASADY WORKS SOLELY OFF HIS BACKBRAIN. HIS MOST PRIMITIVE MENTAL "EQUIPMENT."
PERHAPS HE IS, IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, JUST AN ANIMAL.
FURTHER TO THAT, AND NOT WISHING TO STEP INTO THE MIRE OF "NATURE VERSUS NURTURE"--
--MAYBE HE WAS SIMPLY BORN EVIL.
WELL, THIS IS NOTHING NEW, KASADY'S SAID ALL THAT BEFORE.
TRUE, BUT WE'VE NEVER GOTTEN IT OUT OF HIM SO QUICKLY.

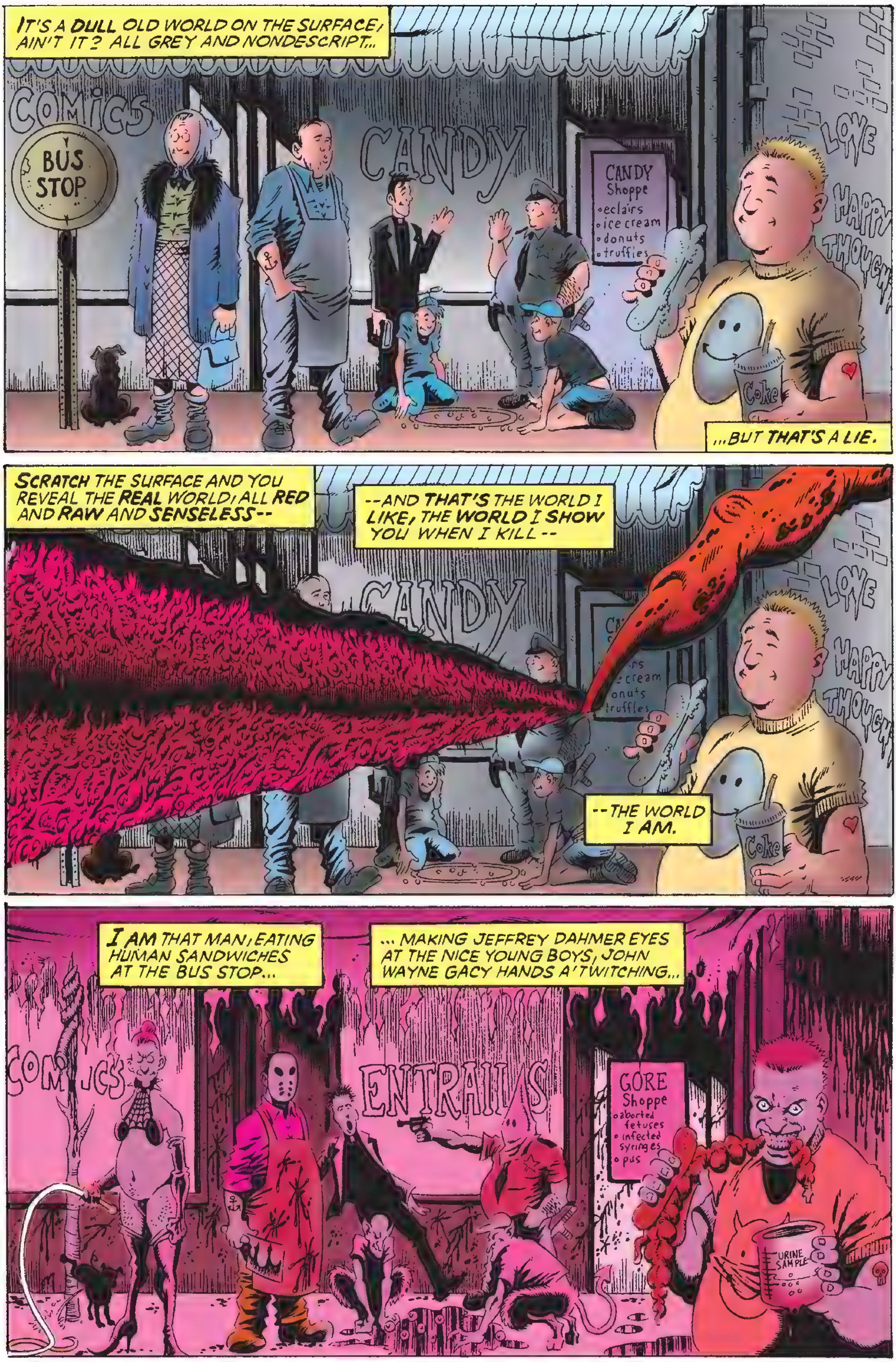

A WELL-CHOSEN SECOND QUESTION COULD SETTLE THE FIRST.
WHY DO YOU KILL?
IT'S PRETTY.
WAKING UP IN THE MORNING AND KNOWING YOU'RE GOING TO KILL SOMEONE...
...IT'S A BEAUTIFUL THING.
MAKES ME FEEL LIKE A GUNSHIP, LIKE MY ENGINE'S ONLY TURNING OVER WHEN I'M MOVING AND KILLING.
MAKES ME FEEL LIKE GOD ON THE FIRST MONDAY MORNING.

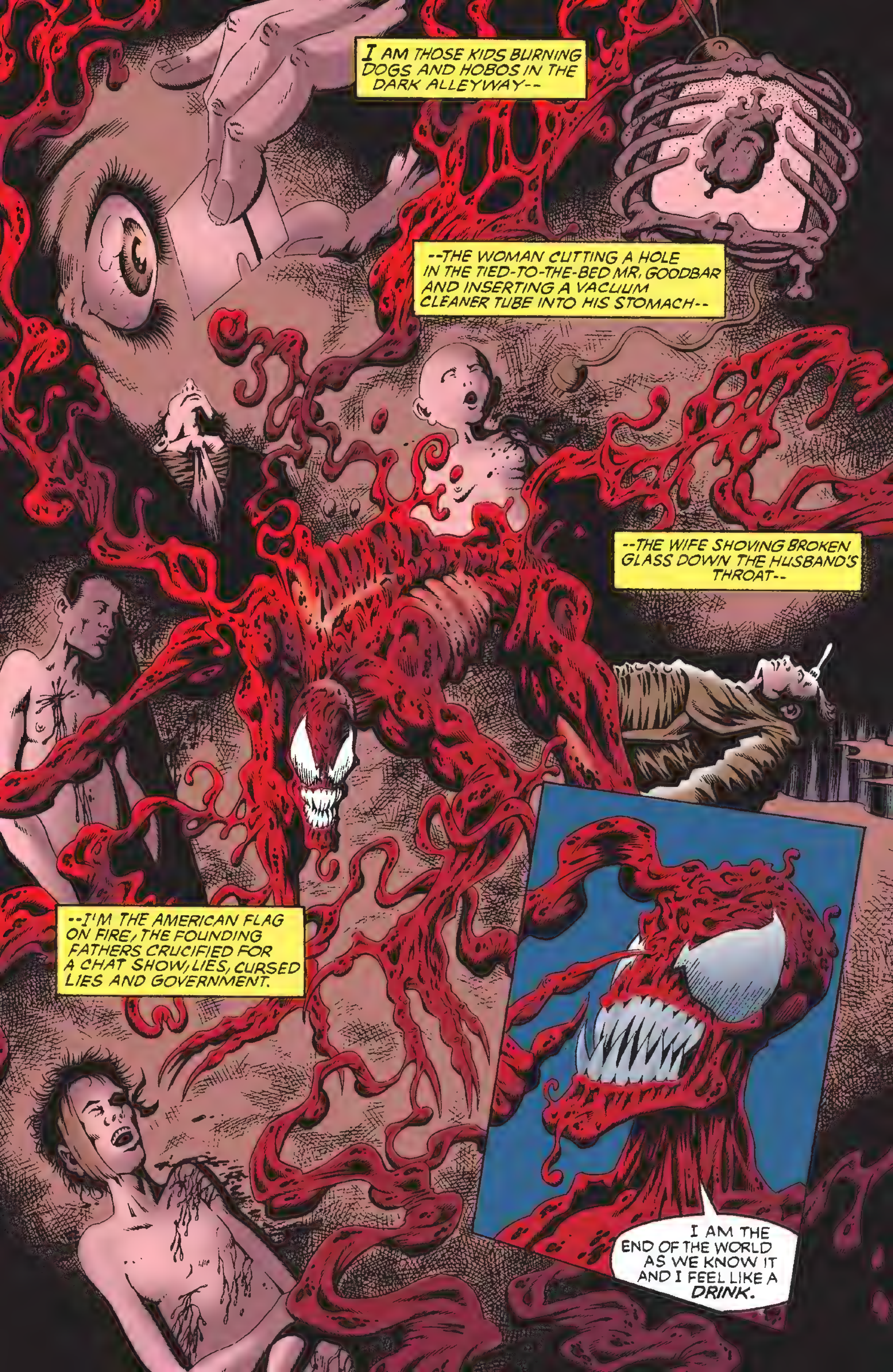

I KILL BECAUSE IT MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'M ON *TV*, WITH MY OWN PERSONAL *SOUNDTRACK*.
LIKE *JFK*, BRAINS ON THE LEATHER AND PRETTY BLOOD ON HIS PRETTY WIFE.
6.5 ITALIAN CARBINE
$12 78
$19 95
JFK
NBK
KKK
AND HIS PRETTY *WIFE*, NOW THINK OF IT, ALL WET AND HUMILIATED, *CRAWLING* IN FRONT OF THE WHOLE *WORLD*--
--I LIKE *THAT*, TOO.
When I was a kid, my favorite movie was the Zapruder Film.

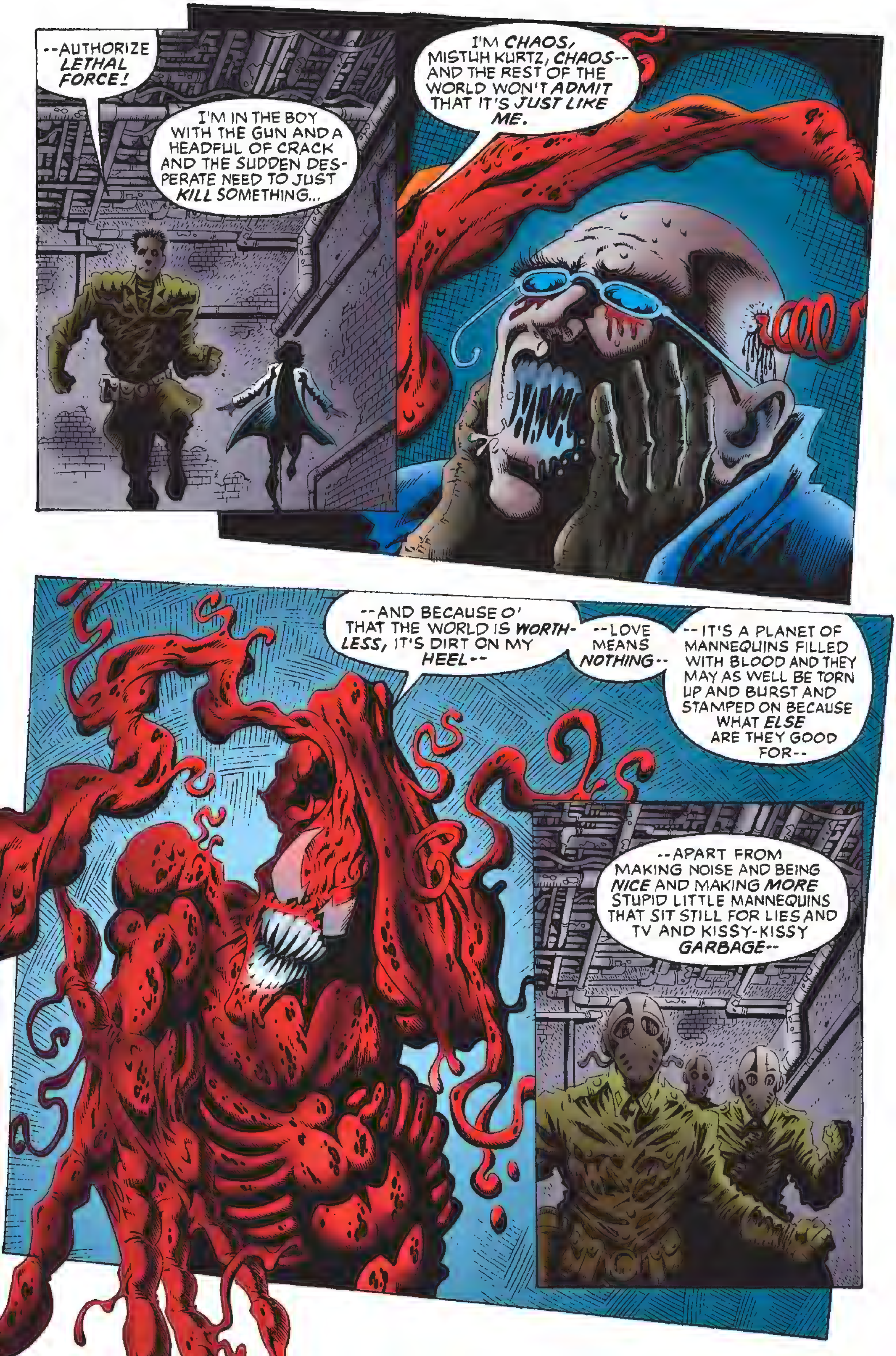

I AIN'T *INSPIRED* BY THE MEDIA. I *INSPIRE* THE MEDIA.
I GOT *VIDEOGAMES* AND *TOYS* AND *COMIC BOOKS* JUST BECAUSE I CAN *KILL* A BODY BETTER THAN *ANYONE.*
YOU WOULDN'T *BELIEVE* THE HUNDREDS OF DIFFERENT WAYS A BODY *DANCES* ONCE A *BULLET'S* BEEN PUT IN IT--
--THE *SONGS* THEY SING WHEN YOU CUT THEIR THROATS--
--THE *PATTERNS* THEY PAINT WHEN YOU MAKE 'EM *SQUIRT.*
IT'S *ART.*
I KILL BECAUSE IT'S PRETTY.
IT'S *ART.*

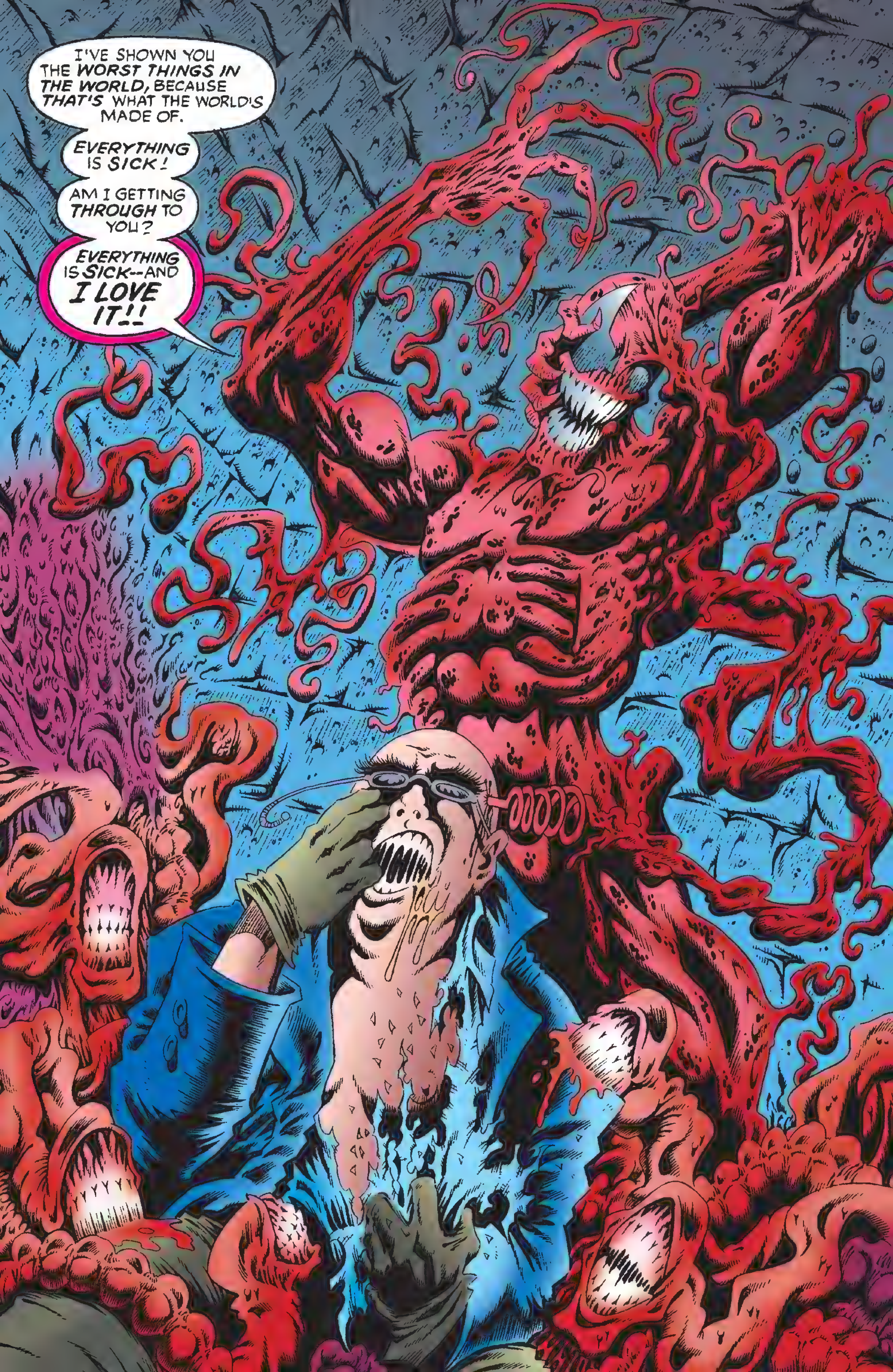

HE SEES AN AESTHETIC IN MURDER.
HIS KILLING IS NOT AN IDLE THING--TO HIM, EACH SINGLE DEATH IS AN ACHIEVEMENT.
INCREDIBLE. IT'S RIVETING, LIKE WATCHING A CAR CRASH...
HE'S NEVER SPOKEN SO LONG, SO LOVINGLY AND IN SO DETAILED AND PERSONAL A WAY ABOUT HIS LIFE, HIS REASONS...
ONE MORE SHARP QUESTION, AND I COULD TEAR HIS WHOLE WORLD DOWN, STAMP ON IT, REBUILD IT IN ANY WAY I LIKE...
HOW DO YOU SEE THE WORLD?
Heh!
HOW DO I SEE THE WORLD?
LEMME SHOW YOU HOW I SEE THE WORLD.

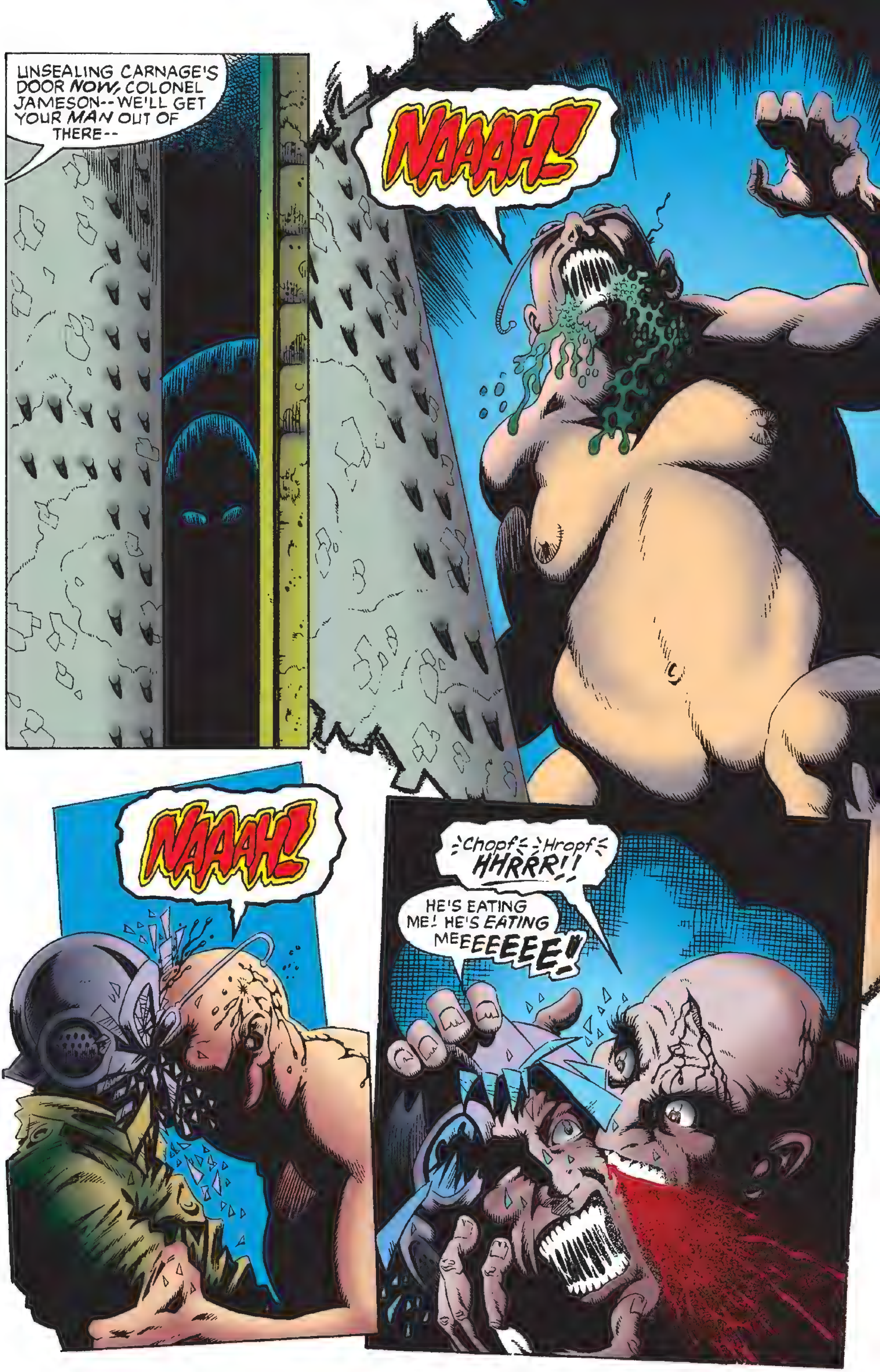

OH, MY GOD--HE GAVE KASADY VITAMIN C.
VITAMIN C DOESN'T STAY IN THE BODY, IT GETS METABOLIZED OUT--
NAAAH!
"--AND ALL THAT MAD ADRENALINE IN KASADY'S SYSTEM MUST SUPERCHARGE HIS METABOLISM--
"--GET GUARDS DOWN THERE. KASADY AND CARNAGE ARE CONNECTED AGAIN!"
WE'RE CONNECTED, YOU AN' ME, MIND-TO-MIND.
I'M GONNA SQUIRT BITS OF MY MIND DOWN THE LINE HERE INTO YOURS, SHOW YOU WHAT I THINK OF THE WORLD.

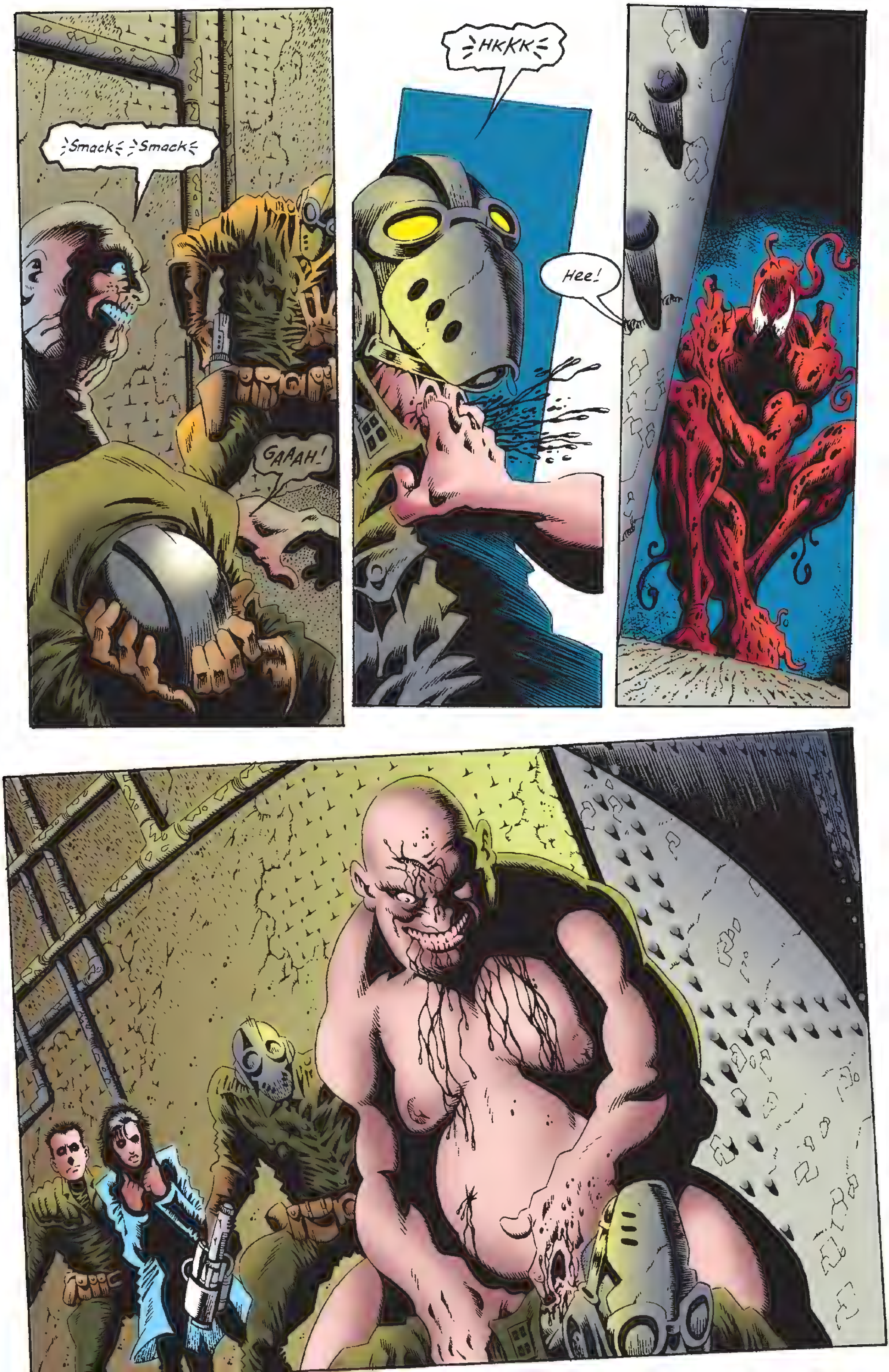

IT'S A DULL OLD WORLD ON THE SURFACE, AIN'T IT? ALL GREY AND NONDESCRIPT...
COMICS
BUS STOP
CANDY
CANDY Shoppe
eclairs
ice cream
donuts
truffles
LOVE
HAPPY THOUGH
Coke
...BUT THAT'S A LIE.
SCRATCH THE SURFACE AND YOU REVEAL THE REAL WORLD, ALL RED AND RAW AND SENSELESS--
--AND THAT'S THE WORLD I LIKE, THE WORLD I SHOW YOU WHEN I KILL--
--THE WORLD I AM.
I AM THAT MAN, EATING HUMAN SANDWICHES AT THE BUS STOP...
... MAKING JEFFREY DAHMER EYES AT THE NICE YOUNG BOYS, JOHN WAYNE GACY HANDS A'TWITCHING...
COMICS
ENTRAILS
GORE Shoppe
aborted fetuses
infected syringes
pus
URINE SAMPLE

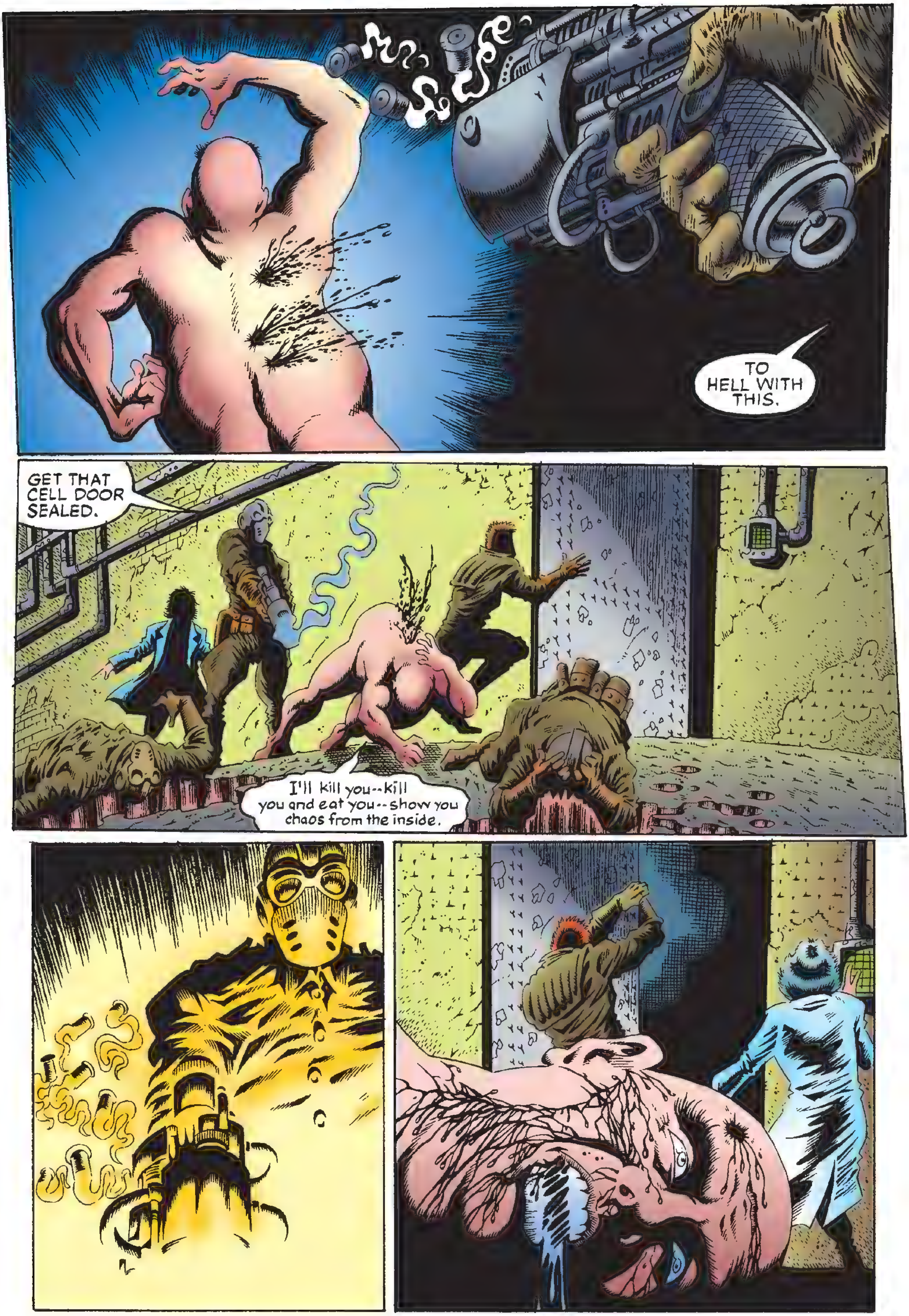

I AM THOSE KIDS BURNING DOGS AND HOBOS IN THE DARK ALLEYWAY--
--THE WOMAN CUTTING A HOLE IN THE TIED-TO-THE-BED MR. GOODBAR AND INSERTING A VACUUM CLEANER TUBE INTO HIS STOMACH--
--THE WIFE SHOVING BROKEN GLASS DOWN THE HUSBAND'S THROAT--
--I'M THE AMERICAN FLAG ON FIRE, THE FOUNDING FATHERS CRUCIFIED FOR A CHAT SHOW, LIES, CURSED LIES AND GOVERNMENT.
I AM THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT AND I FEEL LIKE A *DRINK*.

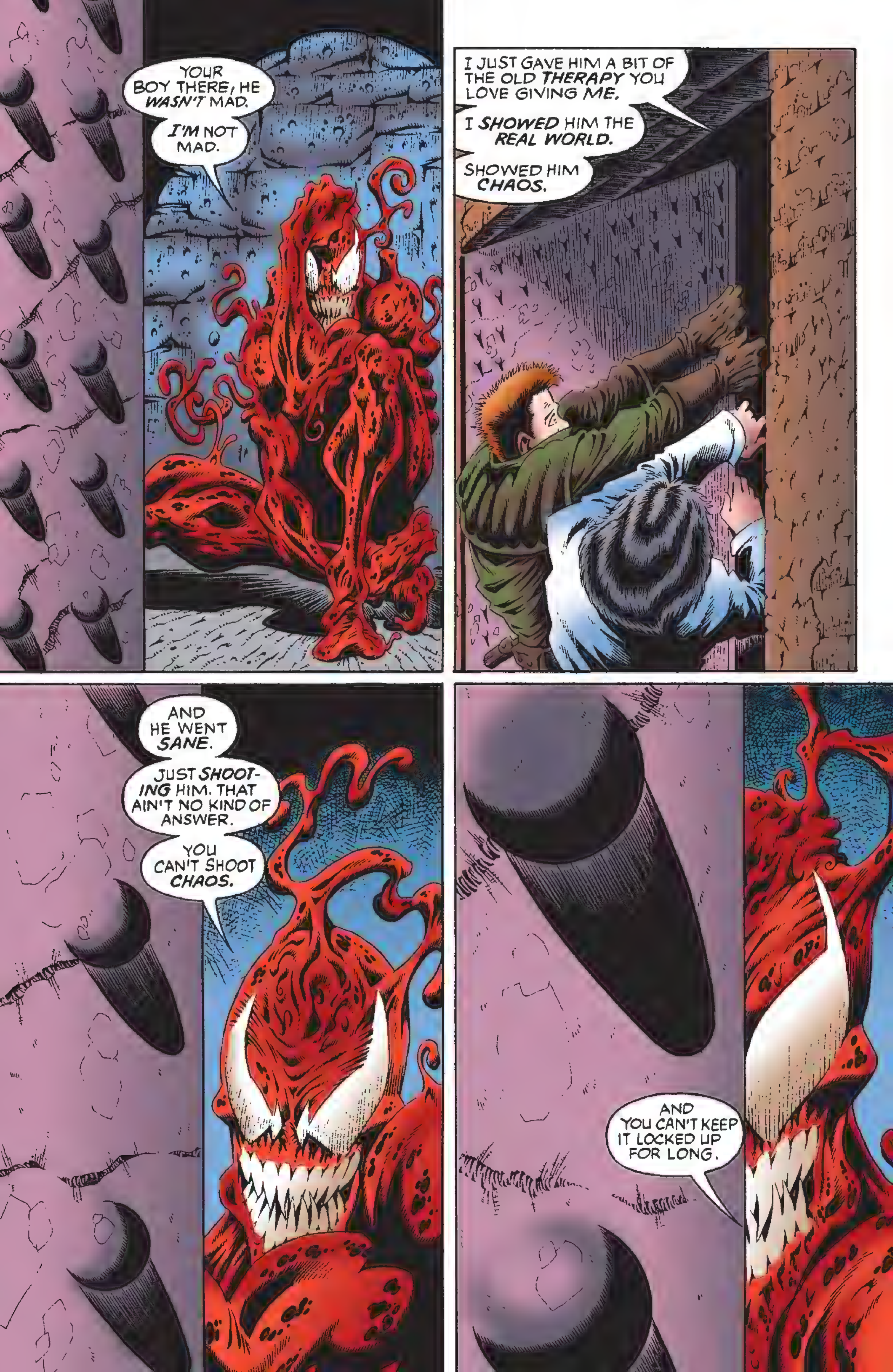

--AUTHORIZE *LETHAL FORCE!*
I'M IN THE BOY WITH THE GUN AND A HEADFUL OF CRACK AND THE SUDDEN DESPERATE NEED TO JUST *KILL* SOMETHING...
I'M *CHAOS,* MISTUH KURTZ, *CHAOS*-- AND THE REST OF THE WORLD WON'T *ADMIT* THAT IT'S *JUST LIKE ME.*
--AND BECAUSE O' THAT THE WORLD IS *WORTHLESS,* IT'S DIRT ON MY *HEEL*--
--LOVE MEANS *NOTHING*--
--IT'S A PLANET OF MANNEQUINS FILLED WITH BLOOD AND THEY MAY AS WELL BE TORN UP AND BURST AND STAMPED ON BECAUSE WHAT *ELSE* ARE THEY GOOD FOR--
--APART FROM MAKING NOISE AND BEING *NICE* AND MAKING *MORE* STUPID LITTLE MANNEQUINS THAT SIT STILL FOR LIES AND TV AND KISSY-KISSY *GARBAGE*--

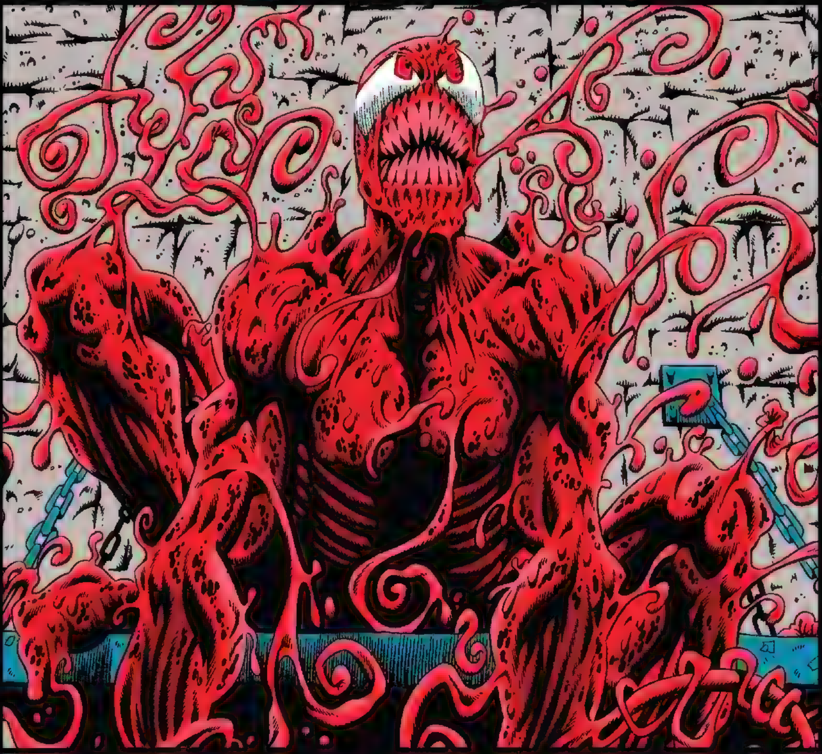

I'VE SHOWN YOU THE *WORST THINGS IN THE WORLD,* BECAUSE *THAT'S* WHAT THE WORLD'S MADE OF.
EVERYTHING IS *SICK!*
AM I GETTING *THROUGH* TO YOU?
EVERYTHING IS *SICK*--AND *I LOVE IT!!*


UNSEALING CARNAGE'S DOOR *NOW*, COLONEL JAMESON--WE'LL GET YOUR *MAN* OUT OF THERE--
NAAAH!
NAAAH!
Chopf Hropf HHRRR!!
HE'S EATING ME! HE'S *EATING* MEEEEEEE!!


Smack Smack
GAAAH!
HKKK
Hee!


TO HELL WITH THIS.
GET THAT CELL DOOR SEALED.
I'll kill you--kill you and eat you--show you chaos from the inside.


YOUR BOY THERE, HE *WASN'T* MAD.
I'M NOT MAD.
I JUST GAVE HIM A BIT OF THE OLD *THERAPY* YOU LOVE GIVING *ME.*
I *SHOWED* HIM THE *REAL WORLD.*
SHOWED HIM *CHAOS.*
AND HE WENT *SANE.*
JUST *SHOOTING* HIM. THAT AIN'T NO KIND OF ANSWER.
YOU CAN'T SHOOT *CHAOS.*
AND YOU CAN'T KEEP IT LOCKED UP FOR LONG.



Deep at the center of the darkness that is Ravencroft Sanitarium,
there sits a creature of unrelenting evil.
A foul abomination, born of the union between twisted human
psychoses and a symbiotic lifeform from the stars.

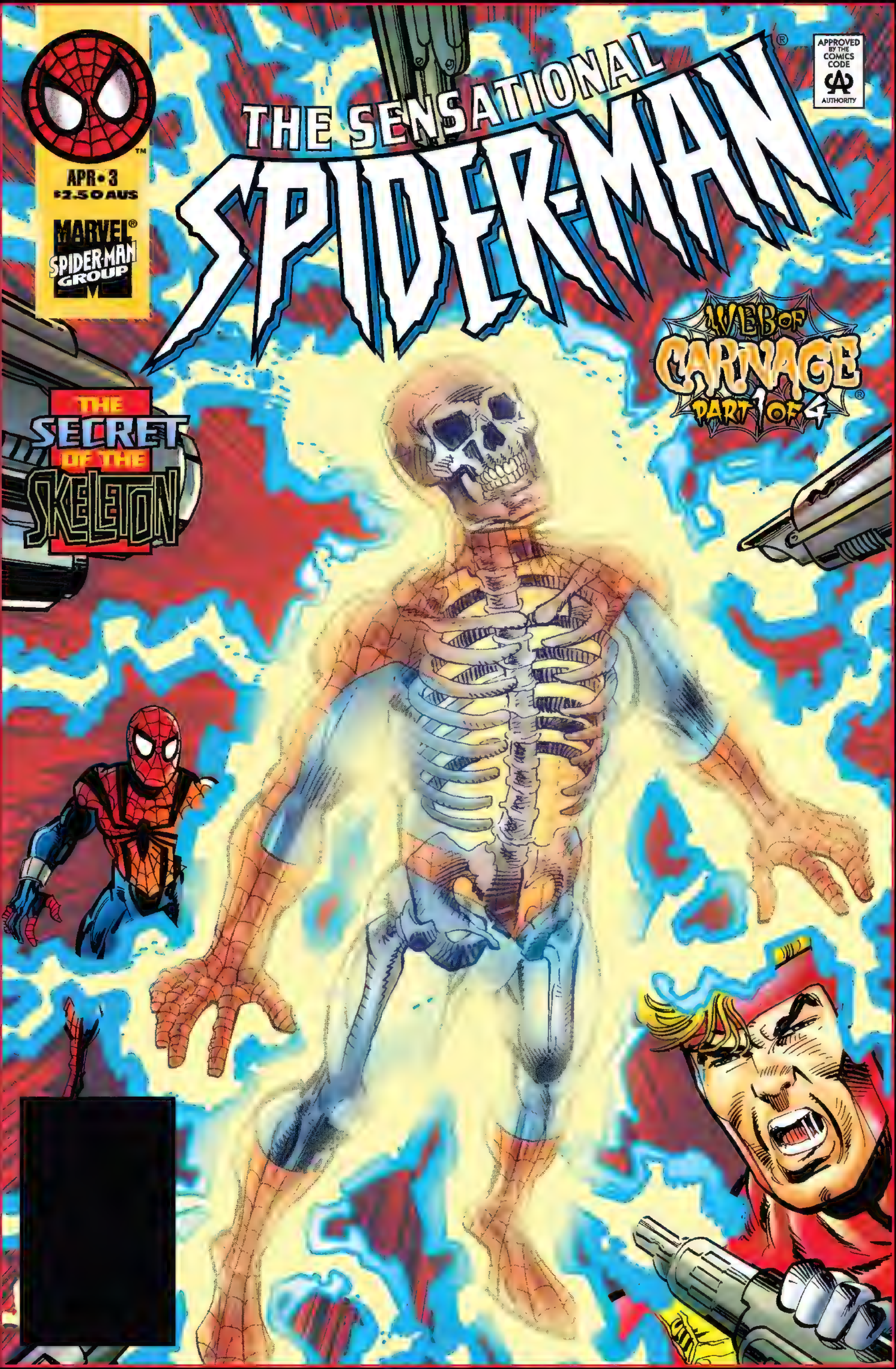
He is madness.

He is chaos.

He is CARNAGE!

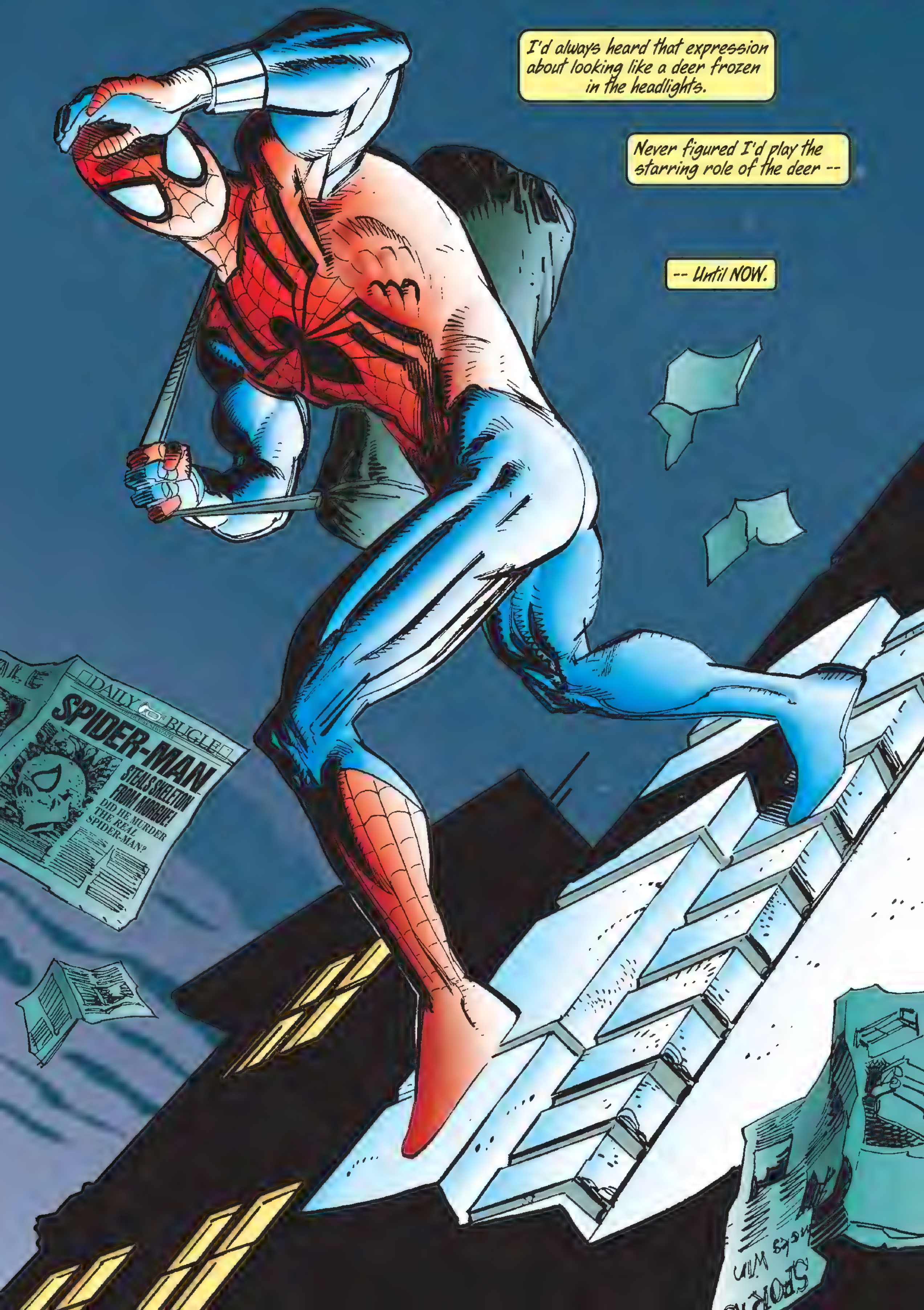
Now, one man will peer into the blackened soul of Cletus Kasady,
determined to uncover the forces that drive his maniacal lusts,
and attempt the impossible:
the rehabilitation of Carnage!

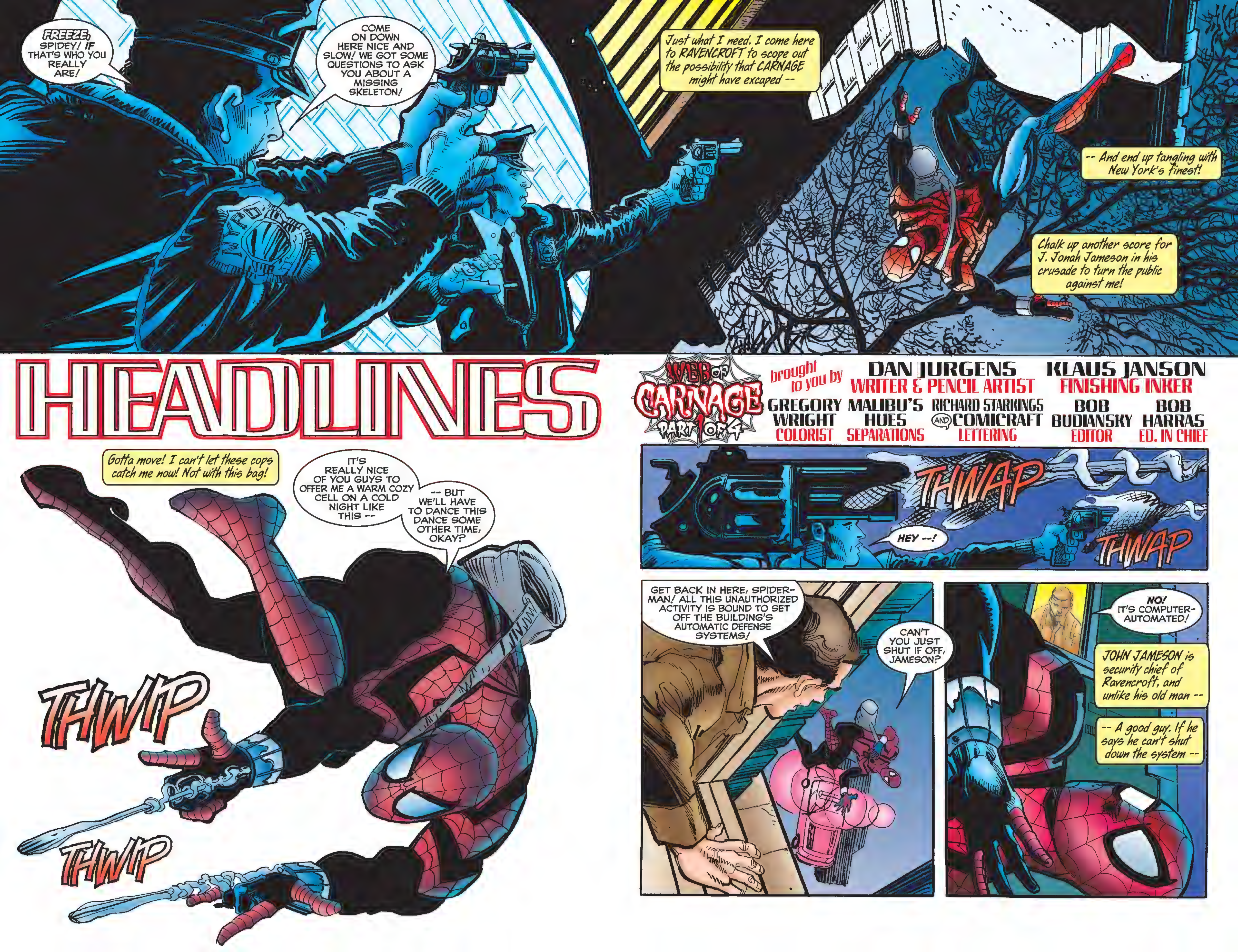
MONTHS LATER, AS THE CLONE SAGA NEARED ITS END, PETER AND BEN HAD BEEN MANIPULATED INTO BELIEVING THAT BEN WAS ACTUALLY THE ORIGINAL SPIDER-MAN, AND THAT PETER HAD BEEN THE CLONE ALL ALONG. SHAKEN, PETER RETIRED TEMPORARILY WHILE BEN TOOK UP THE MANTLE OF SPIDER-MAN — BUT THE DISCOVERY OF A SKELETAL CORPSE DRESSED IN A SPIDER-MAN COSTUME SOON BROUGHT FURTHER CLONE-RELATED MYSTERIES TO LIGHT…

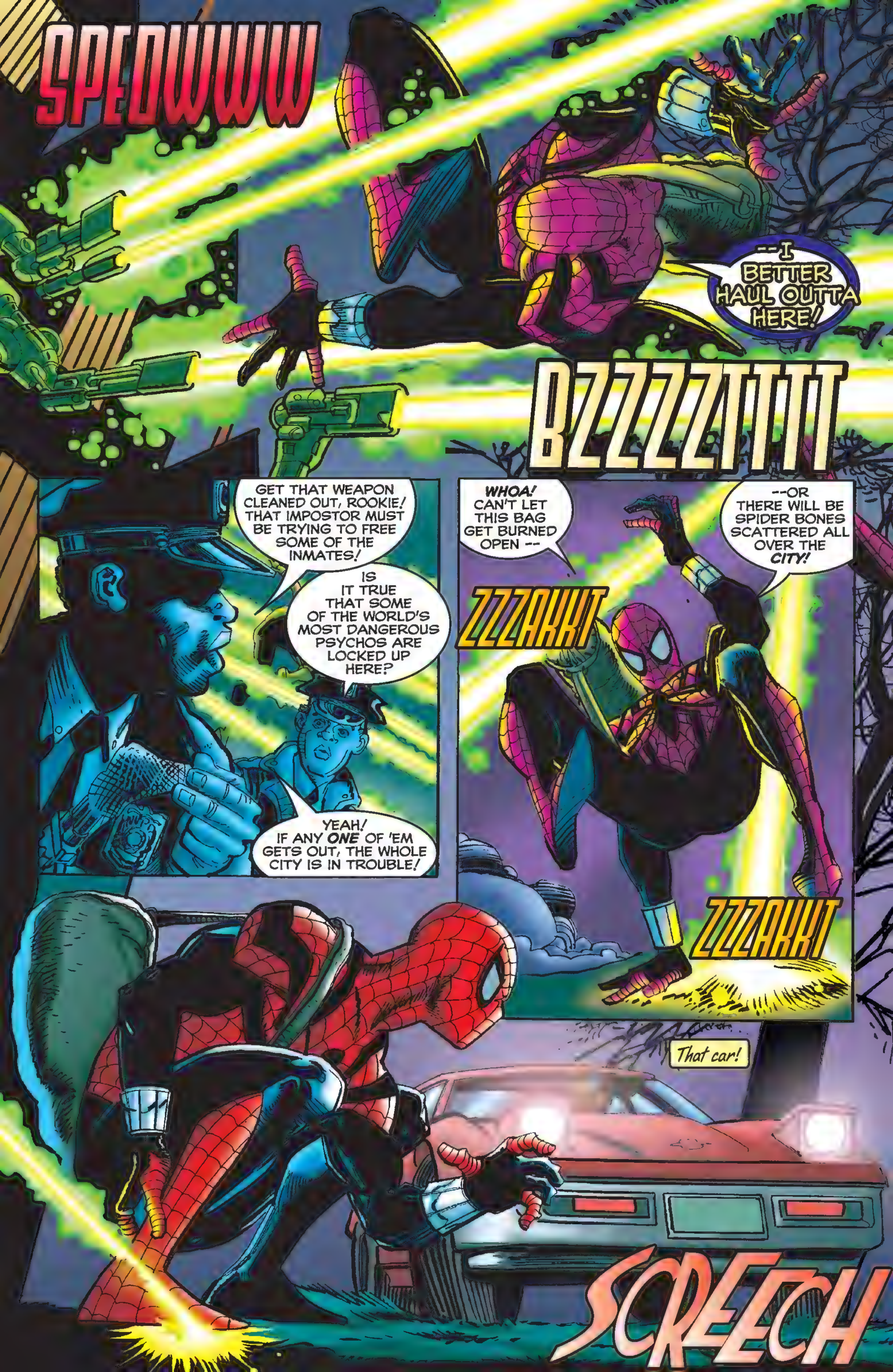

THE SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN
APR • 3
$2.50 AUS
MARVEL SPIDER-MAN GROUP
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
WEB OF CARNAGE PART 1 OF 4
THE SECRET OF THE SKELETON

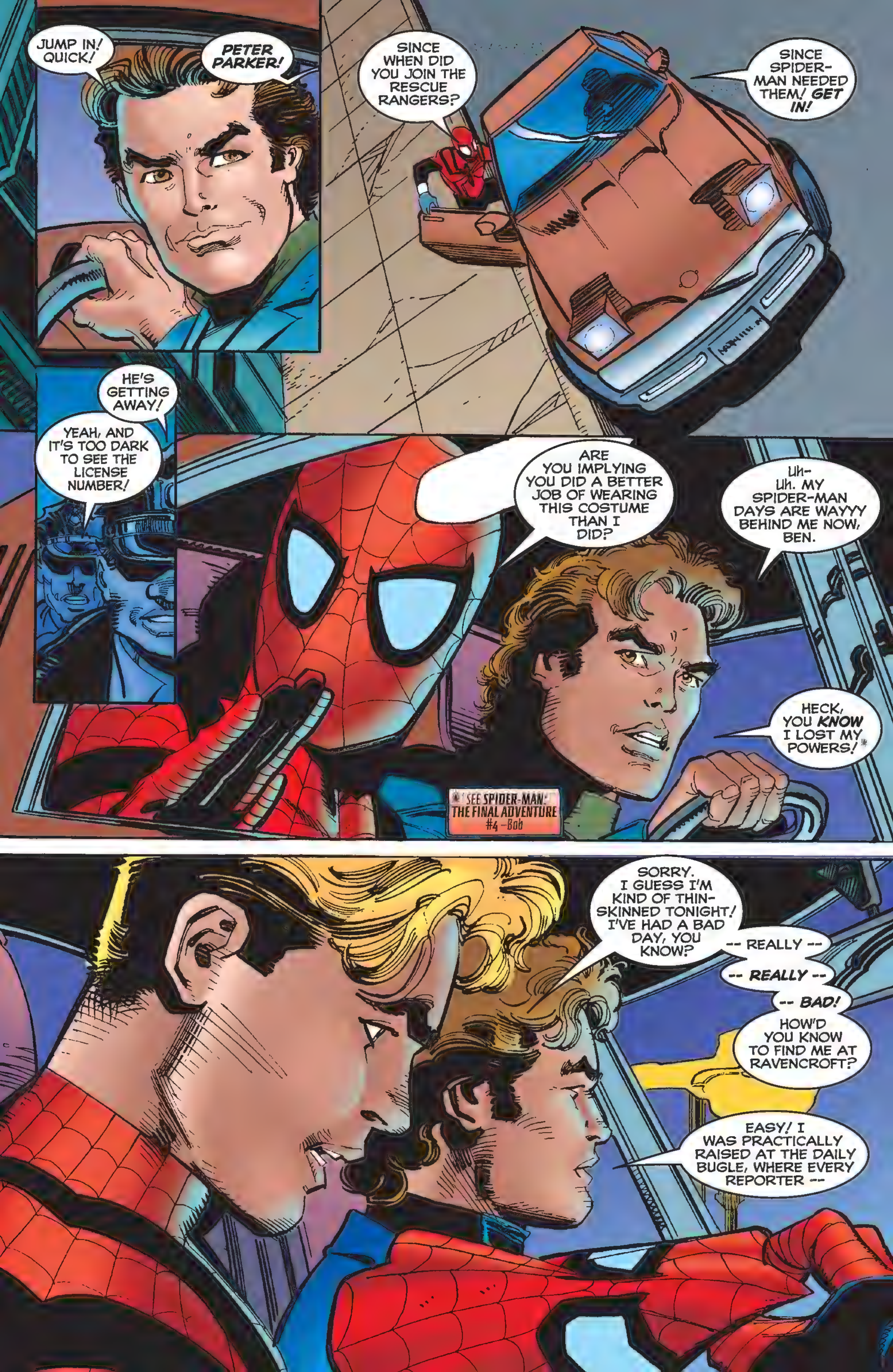
His given name is **Peter Parker.** While in high school, he was bitten by a radioactive spider and endowed with amazing powers, which he has since used to protect the innocent and battle evil. Now he calls himself **Ben Reilly,** and as a costumed crimefighter, he continues his crusade... for he understands that with great power comes great responsibility! STAN LEE PRESENTS:

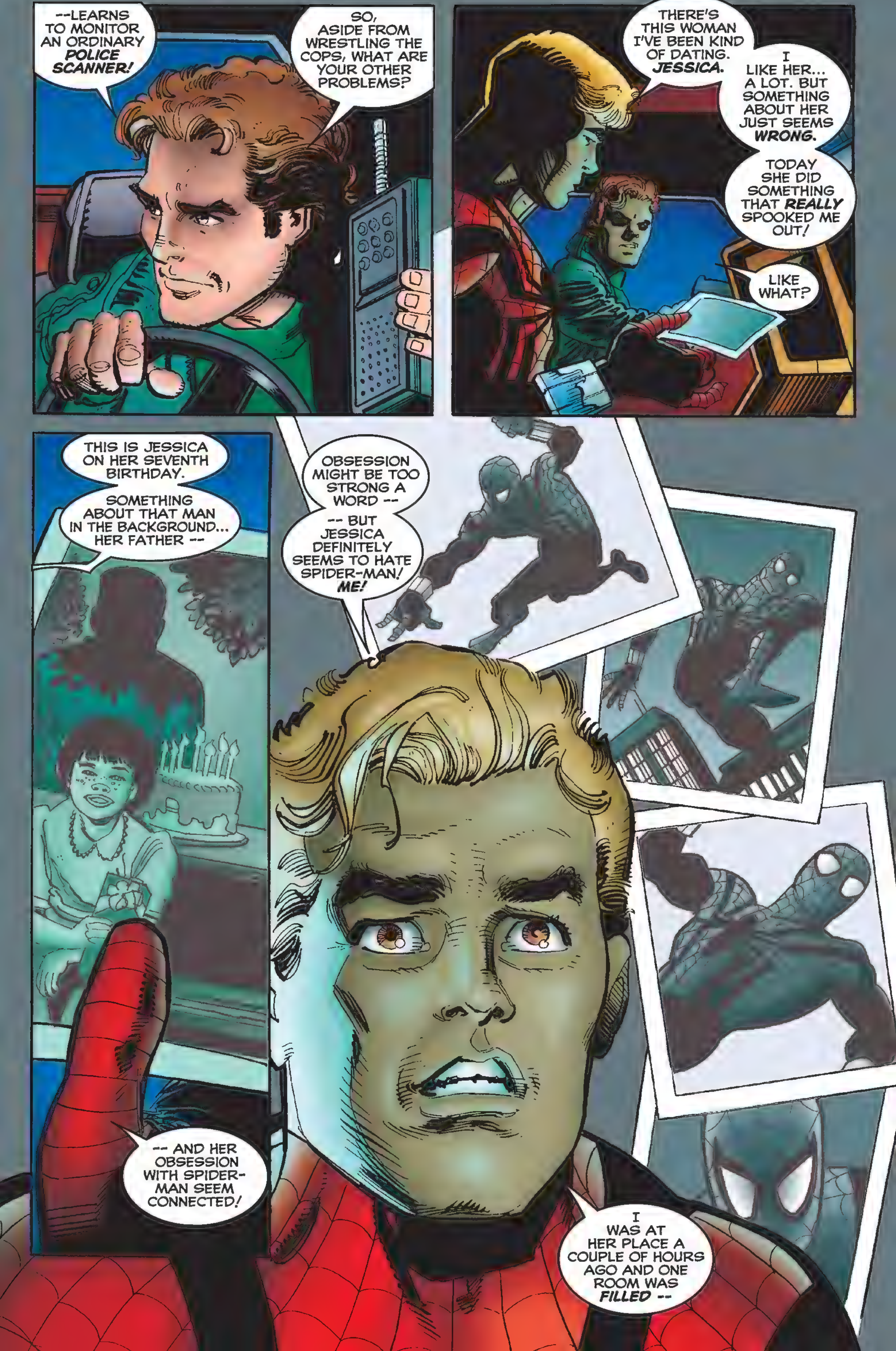
THE SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN

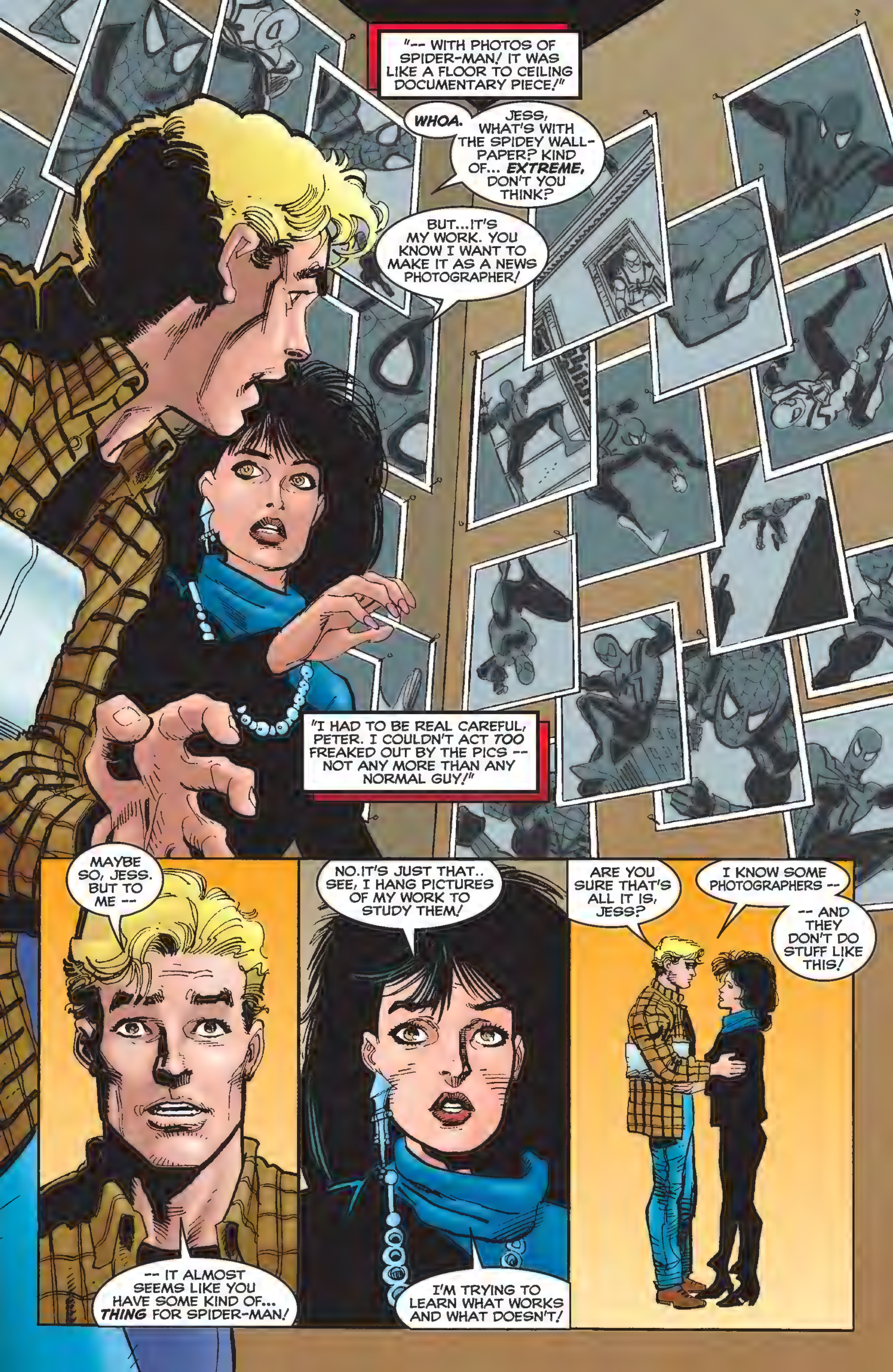

I'd always heard that expression about looking like a deer frozen in the headlights.
Never figured I'd play the starring role of the deer --
-- Until NOW.
DAILY BUGLE
SPIDER-MAN STEALS SKELETON FROM MORGUE!
DID HE MURDER THE REAL SPIDER-MAN?

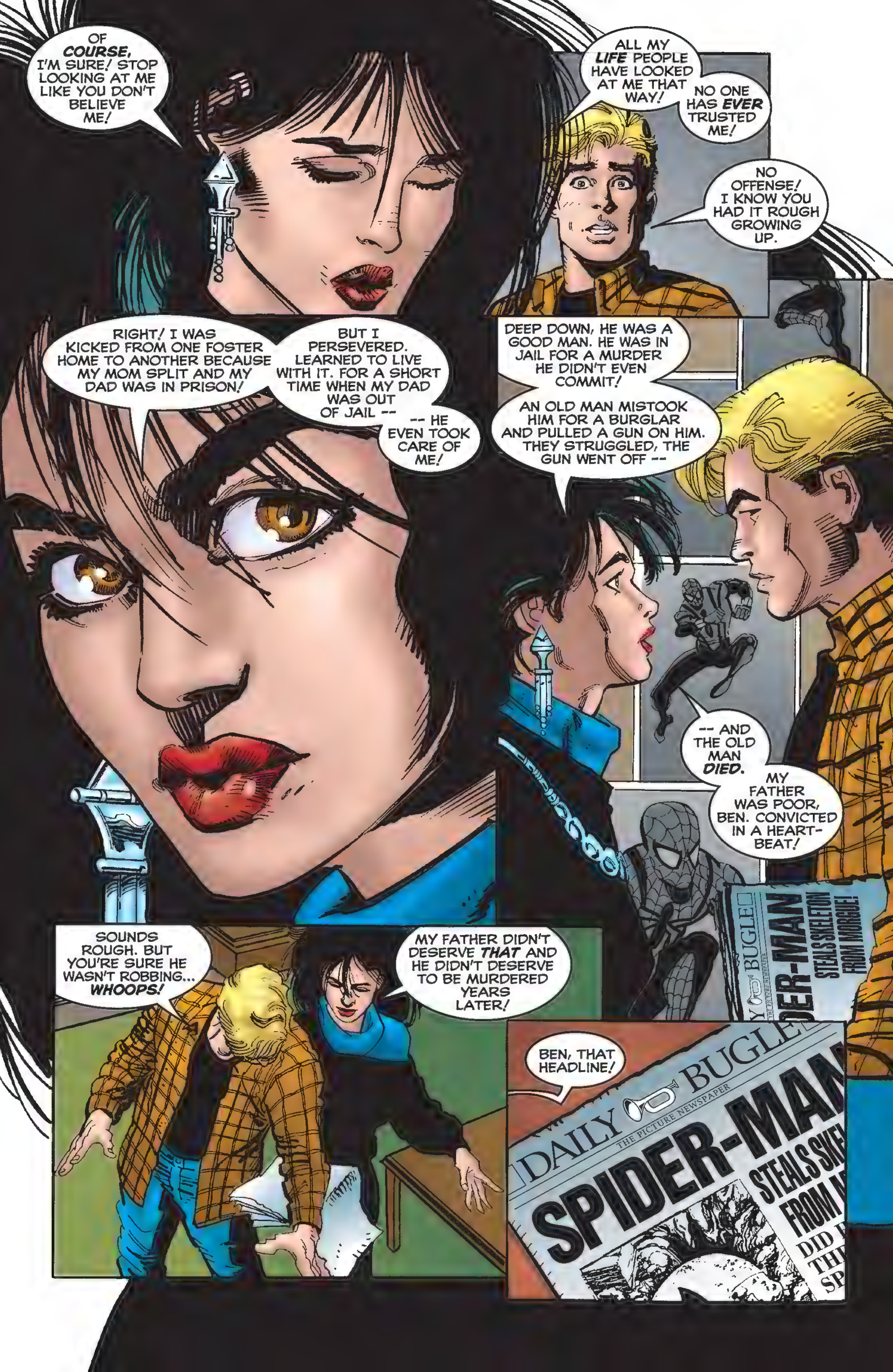

FREEZE, SPIDEY! IF THAT'S WHO YOU REALLY ARE!
COME ON DOWN HERE NICE AND SLOW! WE GOT SOME QUESTIONS TO ASK YOU ABOUT A MISSING SKELETON!
Just what I need. I come here to RAVENCROFT to scope out the possibility that CARNAGE might have excaped --
-- And end up tangling with New York's finest!
Chalk up another score for J. Jonah Jameson in his crusade to turn the public against me!
HEADLINES
WEB OF CARNAGE PART 1 OF 4
brought to you by
DAN JURGENS WRITER & PENCIL ARTIST
KLAUS JANSON FINISHING INKER
GREGORY WRIGHT COLORIST
MALIBU'S HUES SEPARATIONS
RICHARD STARKINGS AND COMICRAFT LETTERING
BOB BUDIANSKY EDITOR
BOB HARRAS ED. IN CHIEF
Gotta move! I can't let these cops catch me now! Not with this bag!
IT'S REALLY NICE OF YOU GUYS TO OFFER ME A WARM COZY CELL ON A COLD NIGHT LIKE THIS --
-- BUT WE'LL HAVE TO DANCE THIS DANCE SOME OTHER TIME, OKAY?
THWIP
THWIP
THWAP
HEY --!
THWAP
GET BACK IN HERE, SPIDER-MAN! ALL THIS UNAUTHORIZED ACTIVITY IS BOUND TO SET OFF THE BUILDING'S AUTOMATIC DEFENSE SYSTEMS!
CAN'T YOU JUST SHUT IF OFF, JAMESON?
NO! IT'S COMPUTER-AUTOMATED!
JOHN JAMESON is security chief of Ravencroft, and unlike his old man --
-- A good guy. If he says he can't shut down the system --

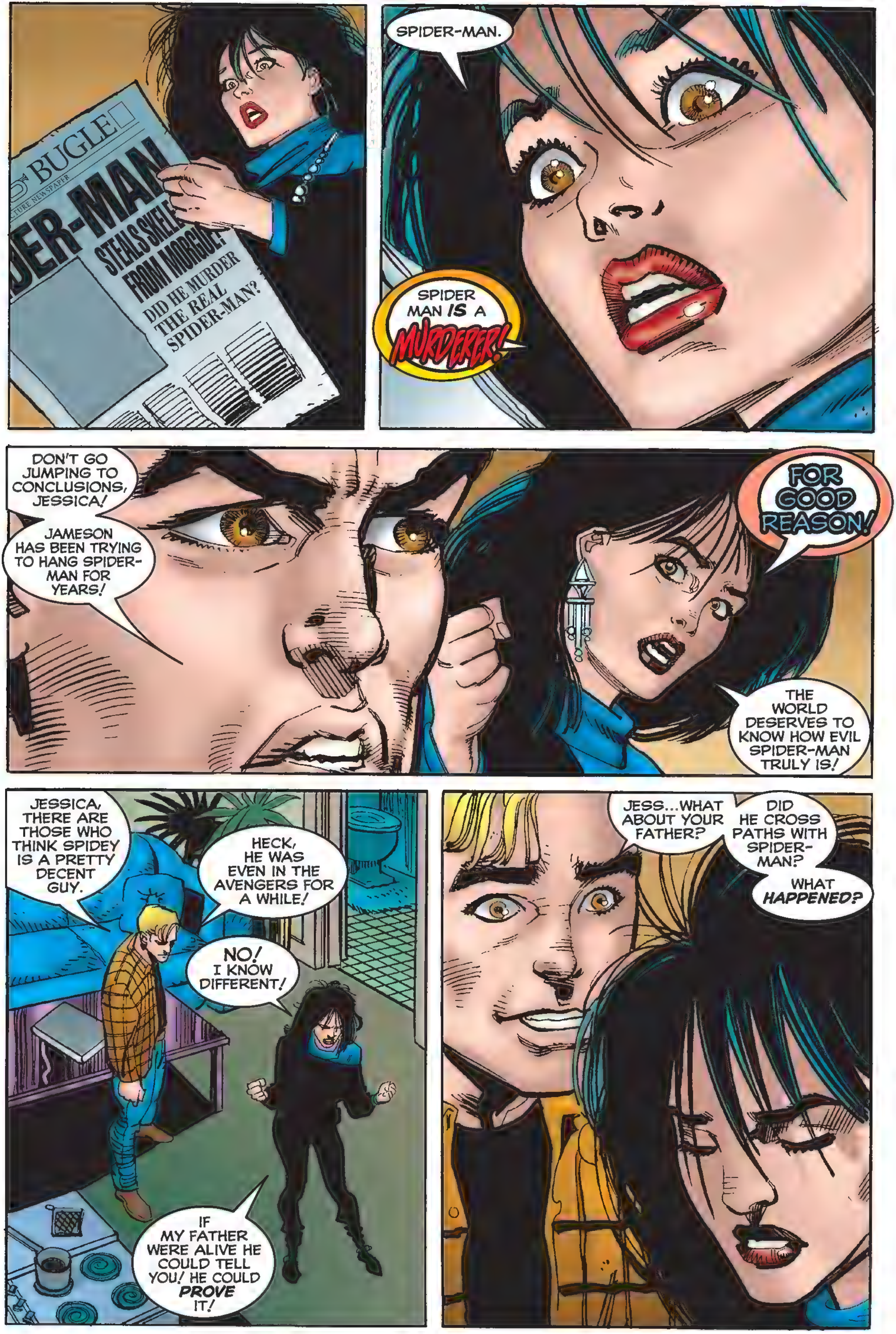

SPEDWWW
--I BETTER HAUL OUTTA HERE!
BZZZZZTTTT
GET THAT WEAPON CLEANED OUT, ROOKIE! THAT IMPOSTOR MUST BE TRYING TO FREE SOME OF THE INMATES!
IS IT TRUE THAT SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST DANGEROUS PSYCHOS ARE LOCKED UP HERE?
YEAH! IF ANY ONE OF 'EM GETS OUT, THE WHOLE CITY IS IN TROUBLE!
WHOA! CAN'T LET THIS BAG GET BURNED OPEN --
--OR THERE WILL BE SPIDER BONES SCATTERED ALL OVER THE CITY!
ZZZAKKT
ZZZAKKT
That car!
SCREECH

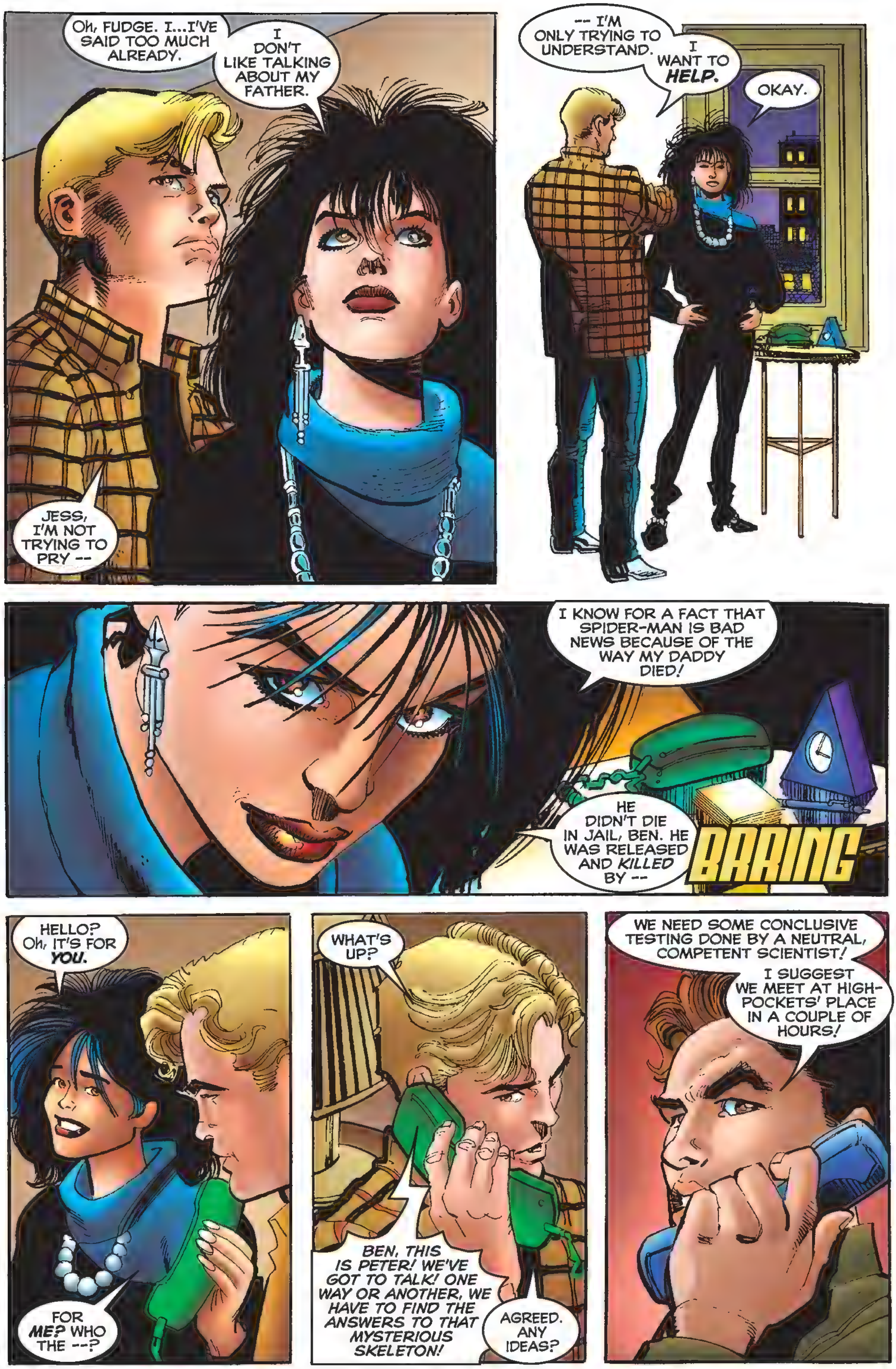

JUMP IN! QUICK!
PETER PARKER!
SINCE WHEN DID YOU JOIN THE RESCUE RANGERS?
SINCE SPIDER-MAN NEEDED THEM! *GET IN!*
HE'S GETTING AWAY!
YEAH, AND IT'S TOO DARK TO SEE THE LICENSE NUMBER!
ARE YOU IMPLYING YOU DID A BETTER JOB OF WEARING THIS COSTUME THAN I DID?
UH-UH. MY SPIDER-MAN DAYS ARE WAYYY BEHIND ME NOW, BEN.
HECK, YOU *KNOW* I LOST MY POWERS!*
*SEE SPIDER-MAN: THE FINAL ADVENTURE #4 —Bob
SORRY. I GUESS I'M KIND OF THIN-SKINNED TONIGHT! I'VE HAD A BAD DAY, YOU KNOW?
-- REALLY --
-- *REALLY* --
-- *BAD!*
HOW'D YOU KNOW TO FIND ME AT RAVENCROFT?
EASY! I WAS PRACTICALLY RAISED AT THE DAILY BUGLE, WHERE EVERY REPORTER --

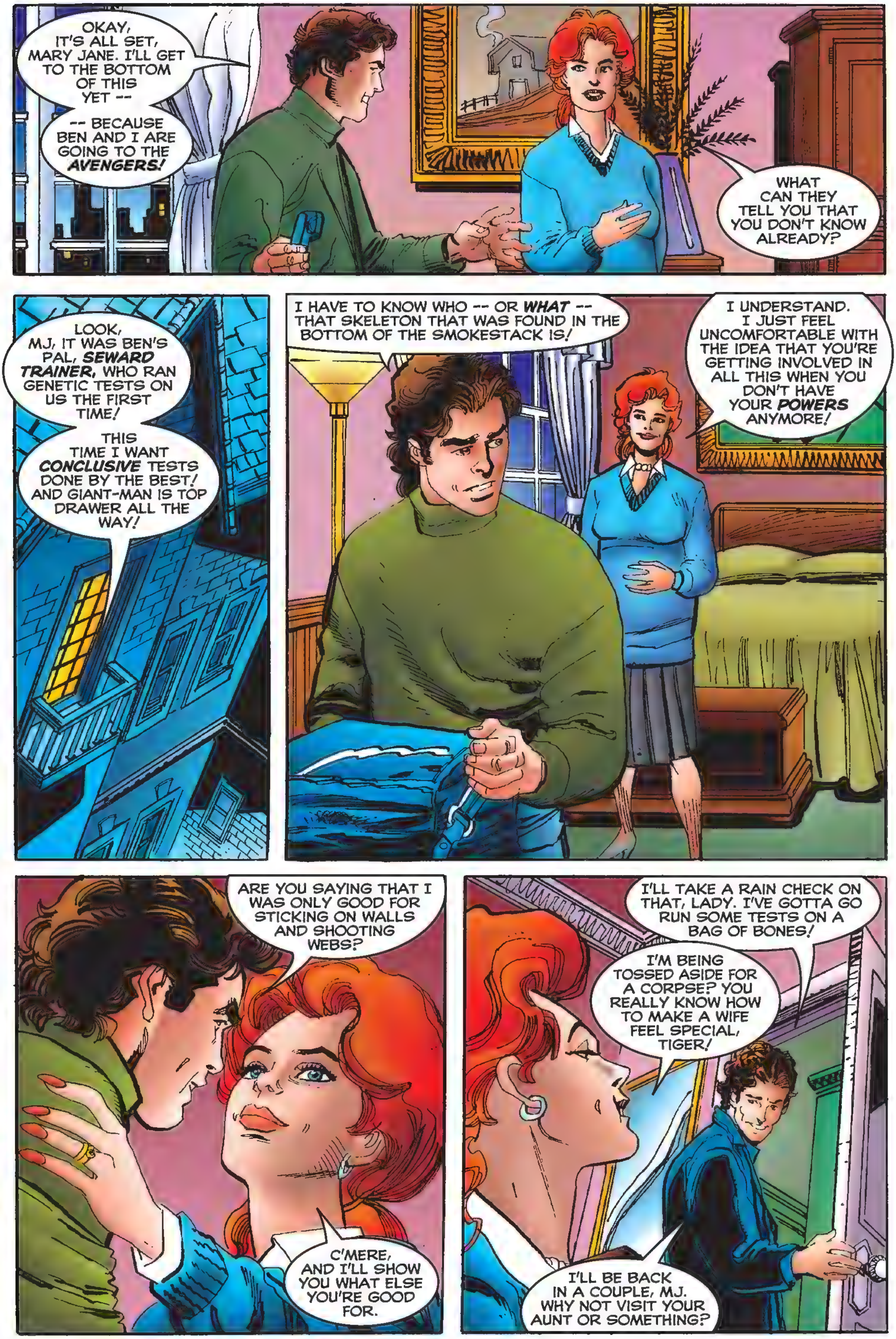

--LEARNS TO MONITOR AN ORDINARY POLICE SCANNER!
SO, ASIDE FROM WRESTLING THE COPS, WHAT ARE YOUR OTHER PROBLEMS?
THERE'S THIS WOMAN I'VE BEEN KIND OF DATING. JESSICA.
I LIKE HER... A LOT. BUT SOMETHING ABOUT HER JUST SEEMS WRONG.
TODAY SHE DID SOMETHING THAT REALLY SPOOKED ME OUT!
LIKE WHAT?
THIS IS JESSICA ON HER SEVENTH BIRTHDAY.
SOMETHING ABOUT THAT MAN IN THE BACKGROUND... HER FATHER --
OBSESSION MIGHT BE TOO STRONG A WORD --
-- BUT JESSICA DEFINITELY SEEMS TO HATE SPIDER-MAN! ME!
-- AND HER OBSESSION WITH SPIDER-MAN SEEM CONNECTED!
I WAS AT HER PLACE A COUPLE OF HOURS AGO AND ONE ROOM WAS FILLED --

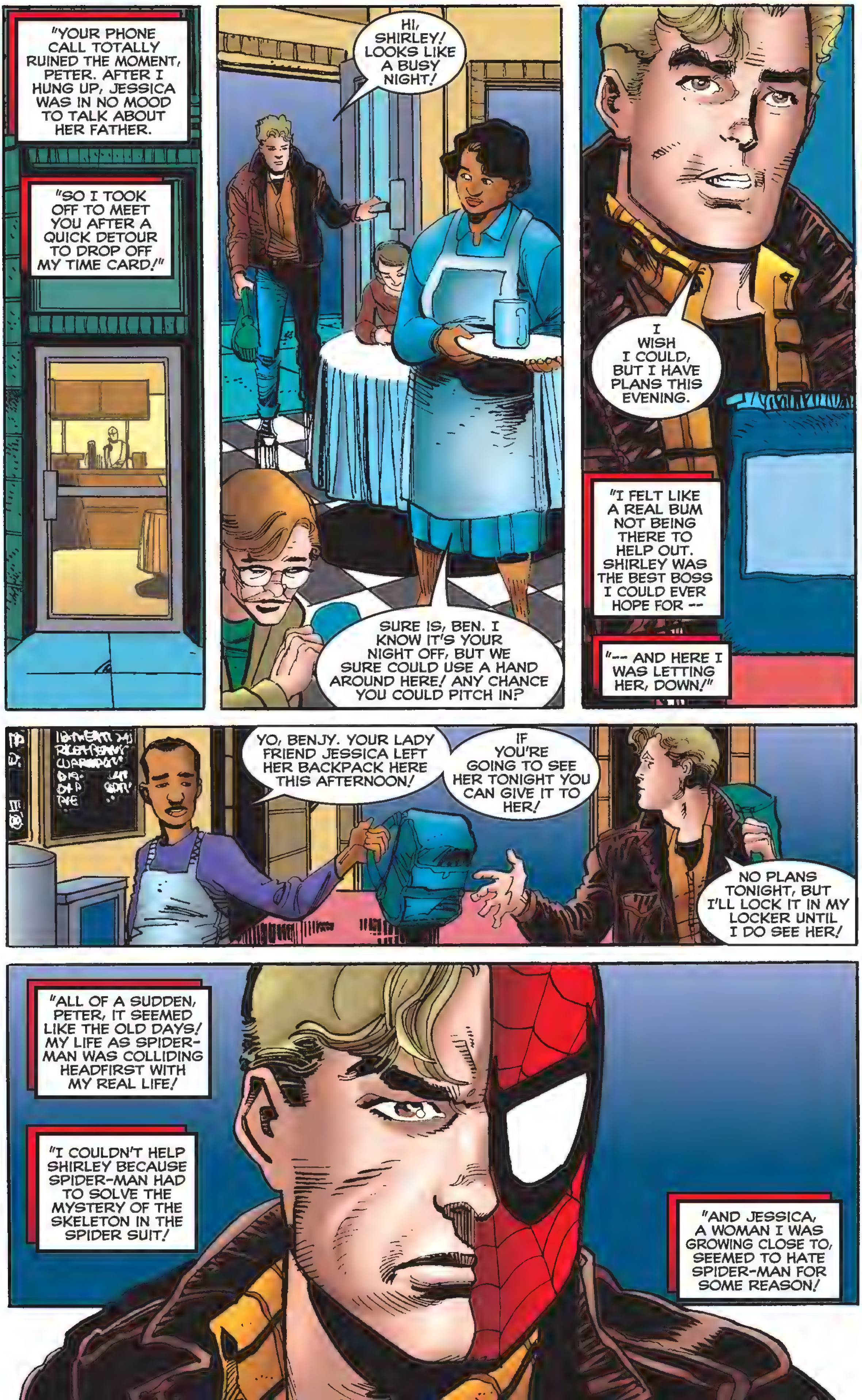

"-- WITH PHOTOS OF SPIDER-MAN! IT WAS LIKE A FLOOR TO CEILING DOCUMENTARY PIECE!"
WHOA.
JESS, WHAT'S WITH THE SPIDEY WALL-PAPER? KIND OF... ***EXTREME,*** DON'T YOU THINK?
BUT...IT'S MY WORK. YOU KNOW I WANT TO MAKE IT AS A NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER!
"I HAD TO BE REAL CAREFUL, PETER. I COULDN'T ACT *TOO* FREAKED OUT BY THE PICS -- NOT ANY MORE THAN ANY NORMAL GUY!"
MAYBE SO, JESS. BUT TO ME --
-- IT ALMOST SEEMS LIKE YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF... ***THING*** FOR SPIDER-MAN!
NO.IT'S JUST THAT.. SEE, I HANG PICTURES OF MY WORK TO STUDY THEM!
I'M TRYING TO LEARN WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOESN'T!
ARE YOU SURE THAT'S ALL IT IS, JESS?
I KNOW SOME PHOTOGRAPHERS --
-- AND THEY DON'T DO STUFF LIKE THIS!

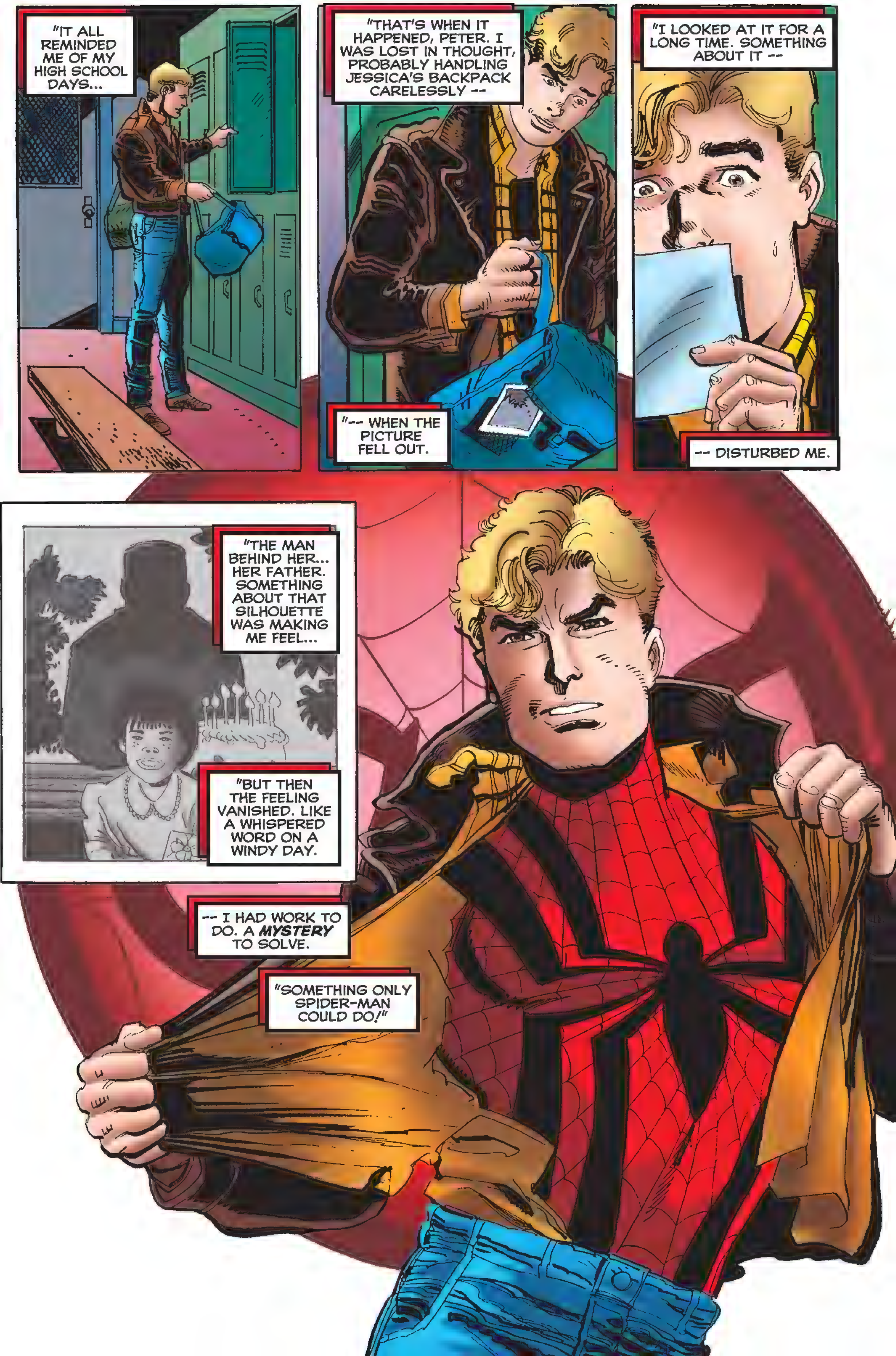

OF *COURSE*, I'M SURE! STOP LOOKING AT ME LIKE YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME!
ALL MY *LIFE* PEOPLE HAVE LOOKED AT ME THAT WAY!
NO ONE HAS *EVER* TRUSTED ME!
NO OFFENSE! I KNOW YOU HAD IT ROUGH GROWING UP.
RIGHT! I WAS KICKED FROM ONE FOSTER HOME TO ANOTHER BECAUSE MY MOM SPLIT AND MY DAD WAS IN PRISON!
BUT I PERSEVERED. LEARNED TO LIVE WITH IT. FOR A SHORT TIME WHEN MY DAD WAS OUT OF JAIL --
-- HE EVEN TOOK CARE OF ME!
DEEP DOWN, HE WAS A GOOD MAN. HE WAS IN JAIL FOR A MURDER HE DIDN'T EVEN COMMIT!
AN OLD MAN MISTOOK HIM FOR A BURGLAR AND PULLED A GUN ON HIM. THEY STRUGGLED, THE GUN WENT OFF --
-- AND THE OLD MAN *DIED*.
MY FATHER WAS POOR, BEN. CONVICTED IN A HEART-BEAT!
DAILY BUGLE
THE PICTURE NEWSPAPER
SPIDER-MAN STEALS SKELETON FROM MORGUE!
SOUNDS ROUGH. BUT YOU'RE SURE HE WASN'T ROBBING... *WHOOPS!*
MY FATHER DIDN'T DESERVE *THAT* AND HE DIDN'T DESERVE TO BE MURDERED YEARS LATER!
BEN, THAT HEADLINE!
DAILY BUGLE
THE PICTURE NEWSPAPER
SPIDER-MAN STEALS SKE
FROM M
DID
TH
SP

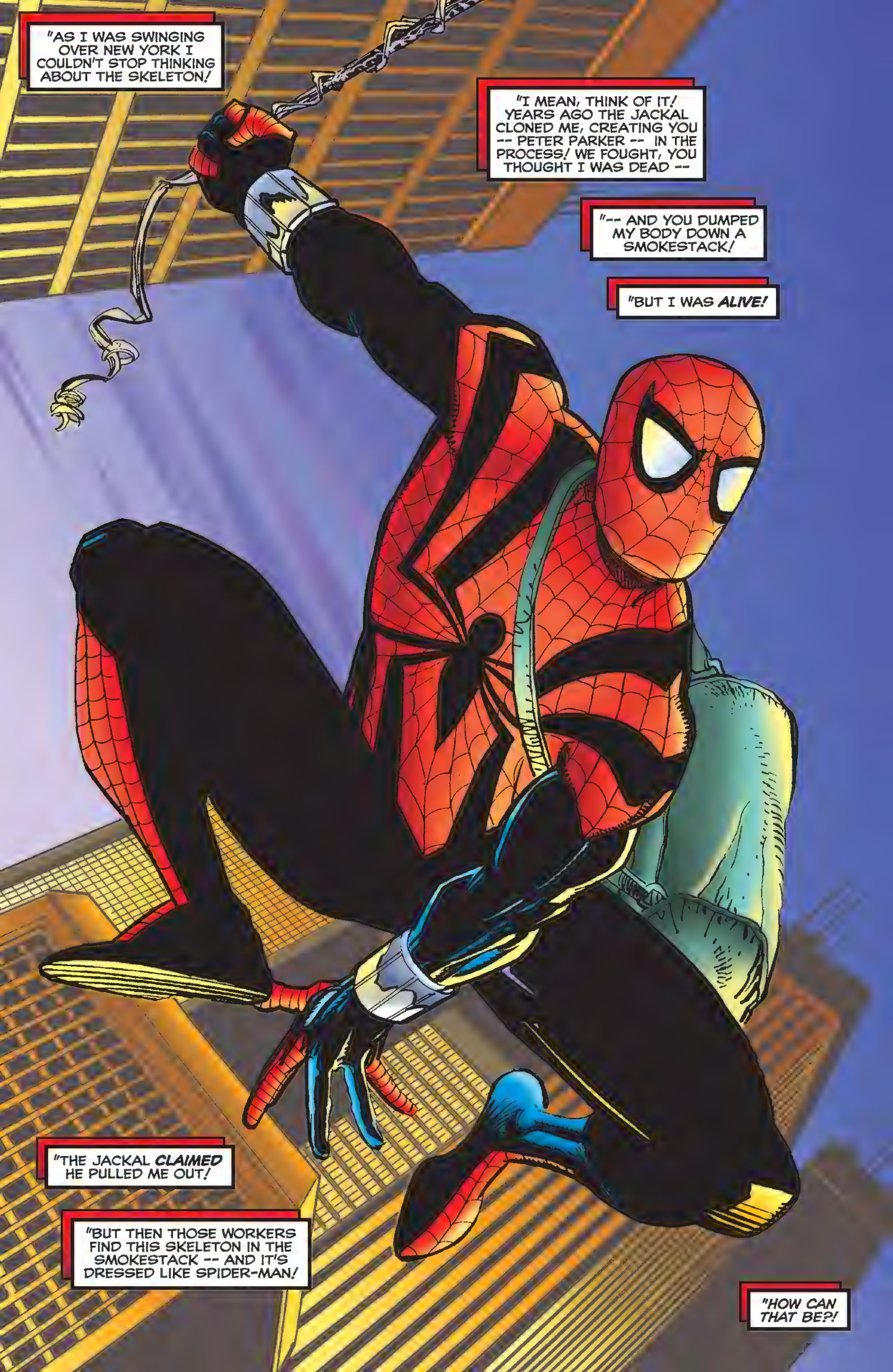

BUGLE
TURE NEWSPAPER
DER-MAN
STEALS SKELE
FROM MORGUE!
DID HE MURDER THE REAL SPIDER-MAN?
SPIDER-MAN.
SPIDER MAN *IS* A MURDERER!
DON'T GO JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS, JESSICA!
JAMESON HAS BEEN TRYING TO HANG SPIDER-MAN FOR YEARS!
FOR GOOD REASON!
THE WORLD DESERVES TO KNOW HOW EVIL SPIDER-MAN TRULY IS!
JESSICA, THERE ARE THOSE WHO THINK SPIDEY IS A PRETTY DECENT GUY.
HECK, HE WAS EVEN IN THE AVENGERS FOR A WHILE!
NO! I KNOW DIFFERENT!
IF MY FATHER WERE ALIVE HE COULD TELL YOU! HE COULD *PROVE* IT!
JESS...WHAT ABOUT YOUR FATHER?
DID HE CROSS PATHS WITH SPIDER-MAN?
WHAT *HAPPENED?*

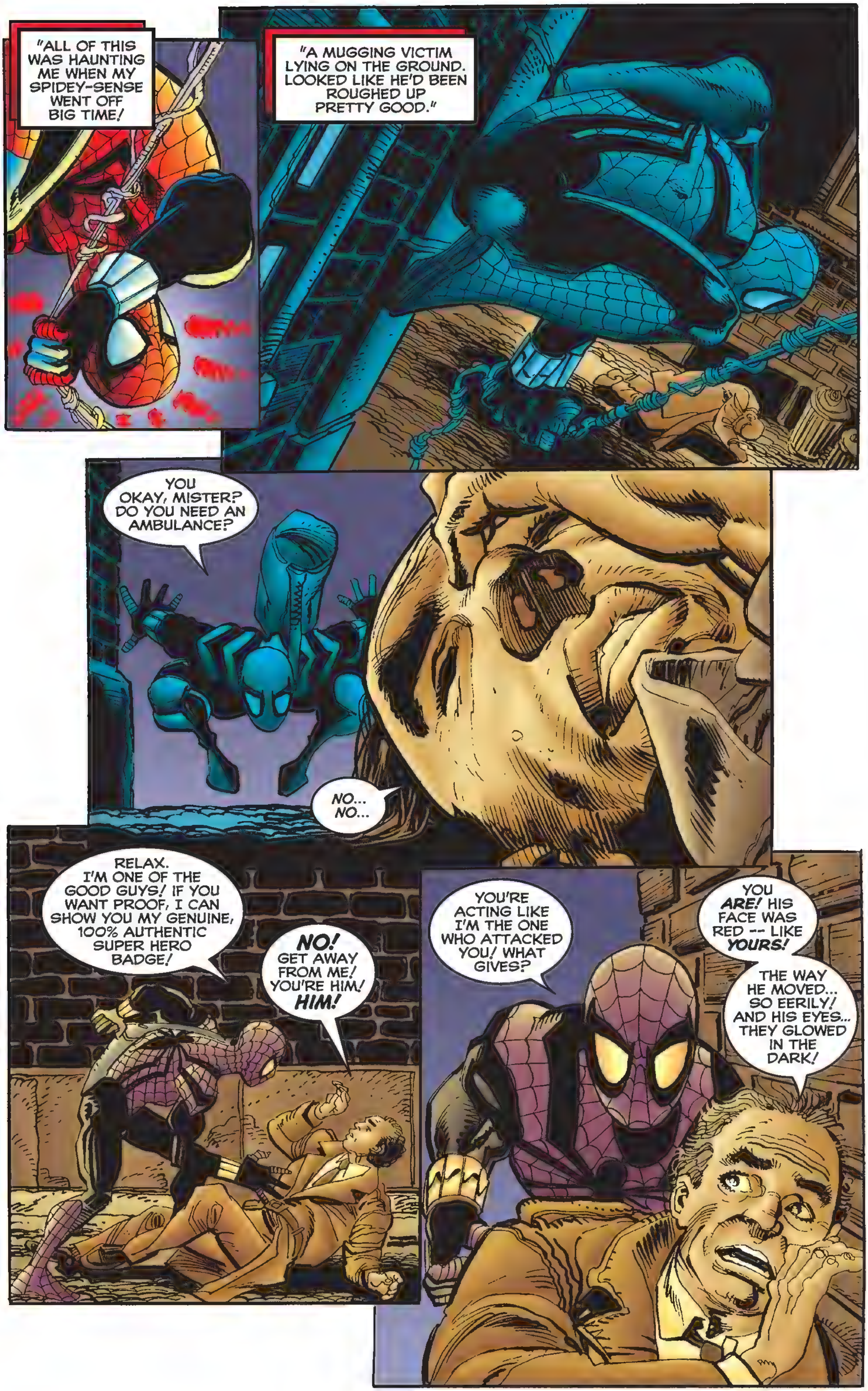

Oh, FUDGE. I...I'VE SAID TOO MUCH ALREADY.
I DON'T LIKE TALKING ABOUT MY FATHER.
JESS, I'M NOT TRYING TO PRY --
-- I'M ONLY TRYING TO UNDERSTAND.
I WANT TO ***HELP.***
OKAY.
I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT SPIDER-MAN IS BAD NEWS BECAUSE OF THE WAY MY DADDY DIED!
HE DIDN'T DIE IN JAIL, BEN. HE WAS RELEASED AND *KILLED* BY --
BRRING
HELLO? Oh, IT'S FOR ***YOU.***
FOR ***ME?*** WHO THE --?
WHAT'S UP?
BEN, THIS IS PETER! WE'VE GOT TO TALK! ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, WE HAVE TO FIND THE ANSWERS TO THAT MYSTERIOUS SKELETON!
AGREED. ANY IDEAS?
WE NEED SOME CONCLUSIVE TESTING DONE BY A NEUTRAL, COMPETENT SCIENTIST!
I SUGGEST WE MEET AT HIGH-POCKETS' PLACE IN A COUPLE OF HOURS!

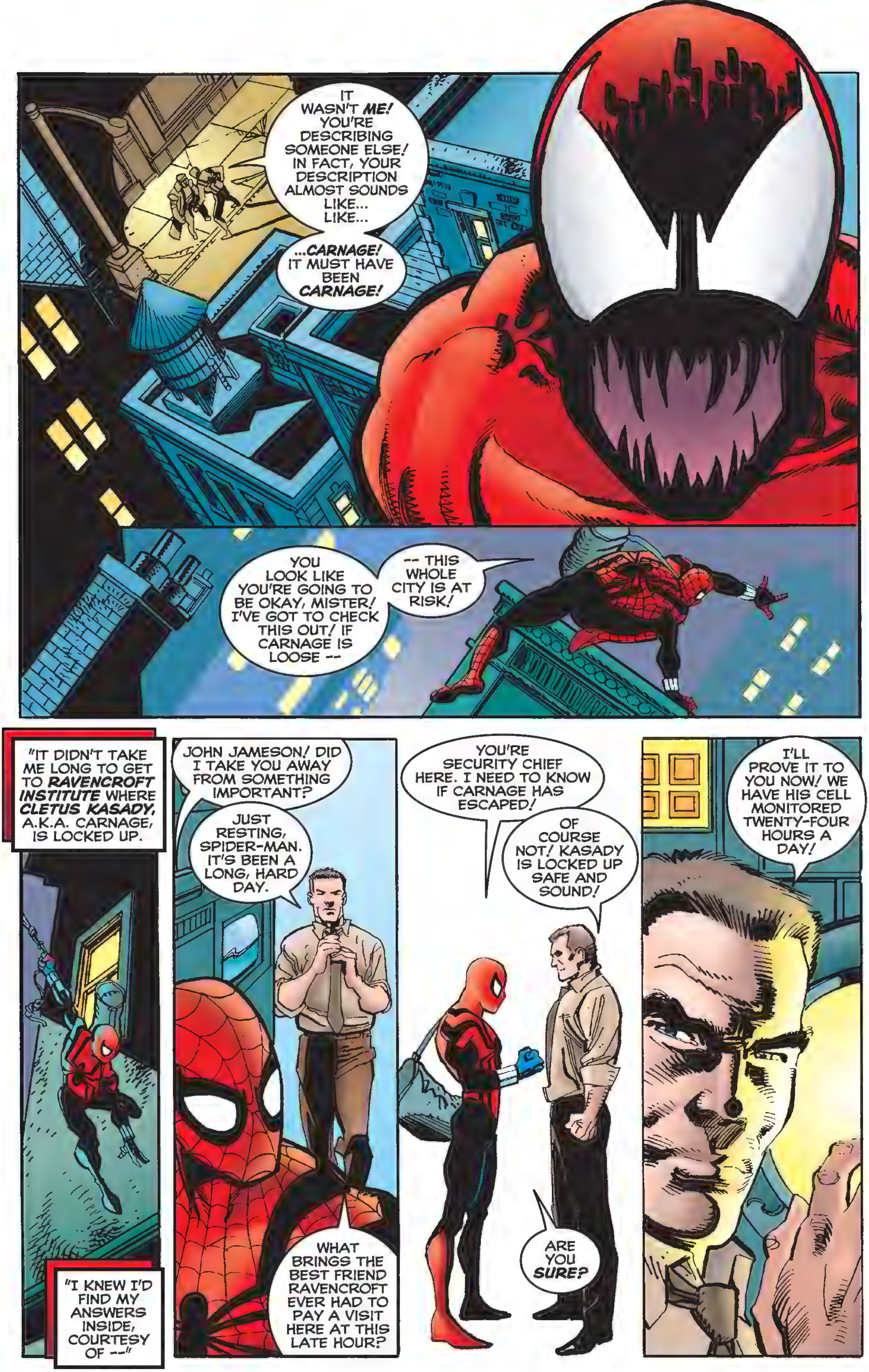

OKAY, IT'S ALL SET, MARY JANE. I'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS YET --
-- BECAUSE BEN AND I ARE GOING TO THE AVENGERS!
WHAT CAN THEY TELL YOU THAT YOU DON'T KNOW ALREADY?
LOOK, MJ, IT WAS BEN'S PAL, SEWARD TRAINER, WHO RAN GENETIC TESTS ON US THE FIRST TIME!
THIS TIME I WANT CONCLUSIVE TESTS DONE BY THE BEST! AND GIANT-MAN IS TOP DRAWER ALL THE WAY!
I HAVE TO KNOW WHO -- OR WHAT -- THAT SKELETON THAT WAS FOUND IN THE BOTTOM OF THE SMOKESTACK IS!
I UNDERSTAND. I JUST FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THE IDEA THAT YOU'RE GETTING INVOLVED IN ALL THIS WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR POWERS ANYMORE!
ARE YOU SAYING THAT I WAS ONLY GOOD FOR STICKING ON WALLS AND SHOOTING WEBS?
C'MERE, AND I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT ELSE YOU'RE GOOD FOR.
I'LL TAKE A RAIN CHECK ON THAT, LADY. I'VE GOTTA GO RUN SOME TESTS ON A BAG OF BONES!
I'M BEING TOSSED ASIDE FOR A CORPSE? YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO MAKE A WIFE FEEL SPECIAL, TIGER!
I'LL BE BACK IN A COUPLE, MJ. WHY NOT VISIT YOUR AUNT OR SOMETHING?

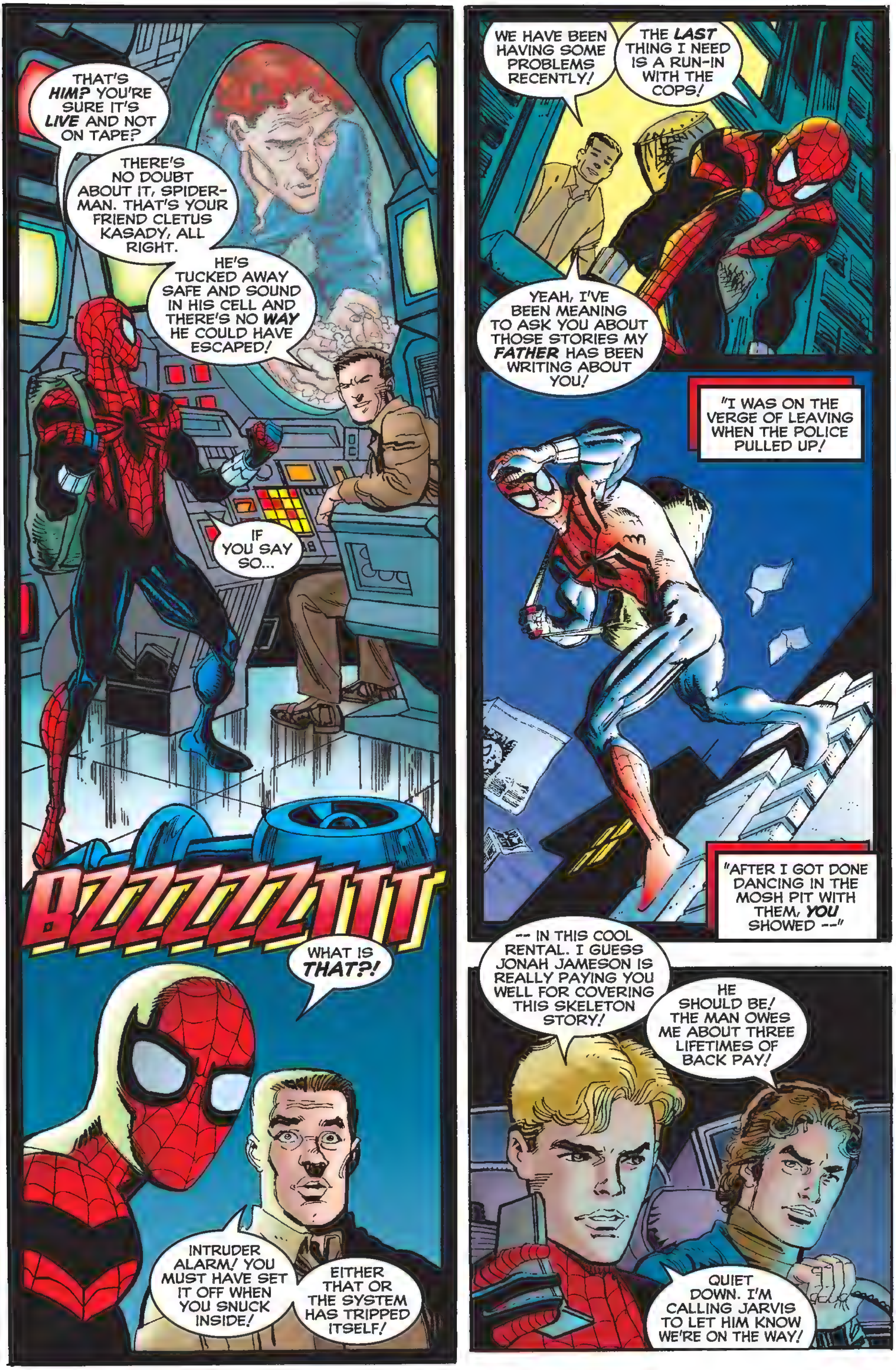

"YOUR PHONE CALL TOTALLY RUINED THE MOMENT, PETER. AFTER I HUNG UP, JESSICA WAS IN NO MOOD TO TALK ABOUT HER FATHER.
"SO I TOOK OFF TO MEET YOU AFTER A QUICK DETOUR TO DROP OFF MY TIME CARD!"
HI, SHIRLEY! LOOKS LIKE A BUSY NIGHT!
SURE IS, BEN. I KNOW IT'S YOUR NIGHT OFF, BUT WE SURE COULD USE A HAND AROUND HERE! ANY CHANCE YOU COULD PITCH IN?
I WISH I COULD, BUT I HAVE PLANS THIS EVENING.
"I FELT LIKE A REAL BUM NOT BEING THERE TO HELP OUT. SHIRLEY WAS THE BEST BOSS I COULD EVER HOPE FOR --
"-- AND HERE I WAS LETTING HER, DOWN!"
YO, BENJY. YOUR LADY FRIEND JESSICA LEFT HER BACKPACK HERE THIS AFTERNOON!
IF YOU'RE GOING TO SEE HER TONIGHT YOU CAN GIVE IT TO HER!
NO PLANS TONIGHT, BUT I'LL LOCK IT IN MY LOCKER UNTIL I DO SEE HER!
"ALL OF A SUDDEN, PETER, IT SEEMED LIKE THE OLD DAYS! MY LIFE AS SPIDER-MAN WAS COLLIDING HEADFIRST WITH MY REAL LIFE!
"I COULDN'T HELP SHIRLEY BECAUSE SPIDER-MAN HAD TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF THE SKELETON IN THE SPIDER SUIT!
"AND JESSICA, A WOMAN I WAS GROWING CLOSE TO, SEEMED TO HATE SPIDER-MAN FOR SOME REASON!

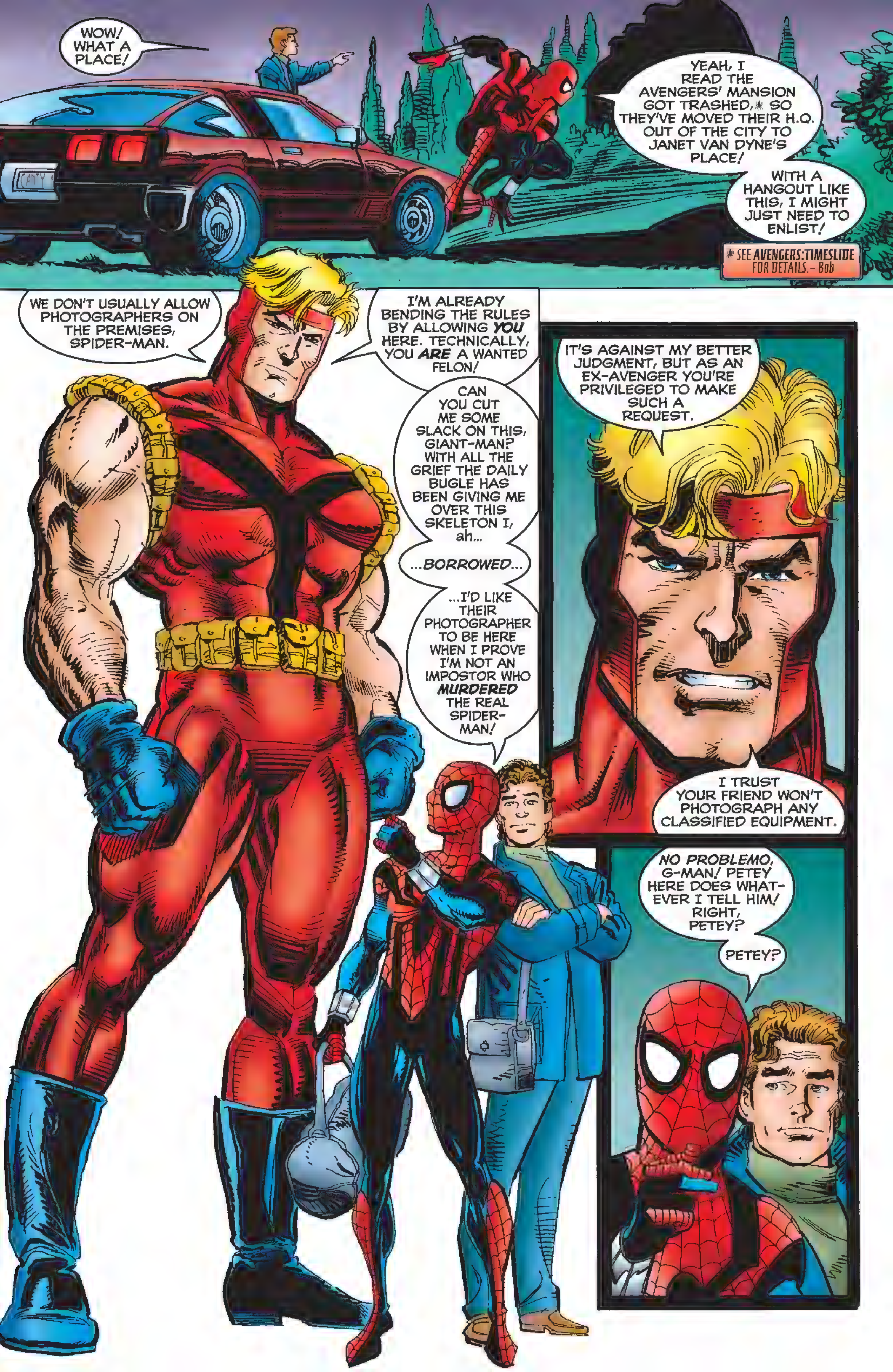

"IT ALL REMINDED ME OF MY HIGH SCHOOL DAYS...
"THAT'S WHEN IT HAPPENED, PETER. I WAS LOST IN THOUGHT, PROBABLY HANDLING JESSICA'S BACKPACK CARELESSLY --
"-- WHEN THE PICTURE FELL OUT.
"I LOOKED AT IT FOR A LONG TIME. SOMETHING ABOUT IT --
-- DISTURBED ME.
"THE MAN BEHIND HER... HER FATHER. SOMETHING ABOUT THAT SILHOUETTE WAS MAKING ME FEEL...
"BUT THEN THE FEELING VANISHED. LIKE A WHISPERED WORD ON A WINDY DAY.
-- I HAD WORK TO DO. A MYSTERY TO SOLVE.
"SOMETHING ONLY SPIDER-MAN COULD DO!"

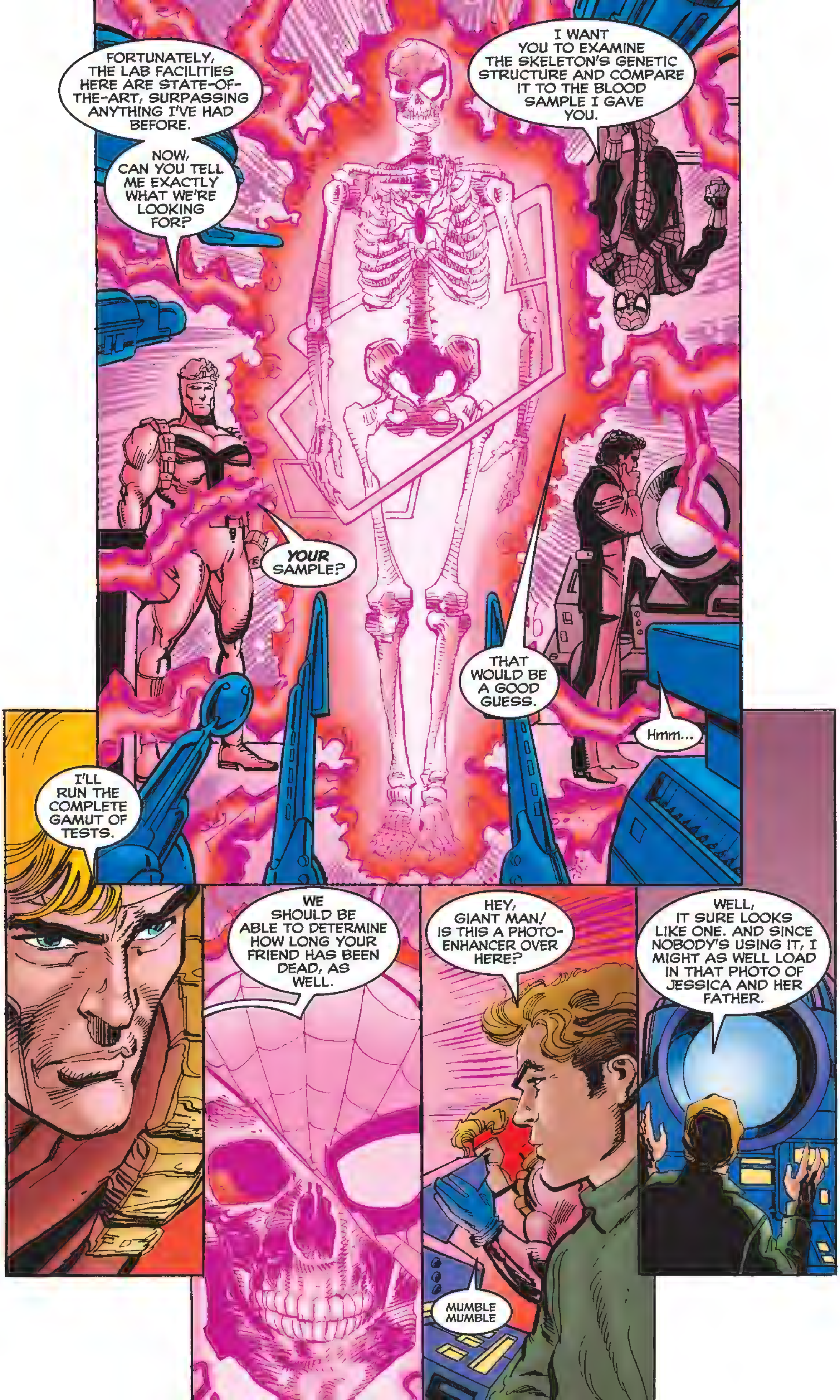

"AS I WAS SWINGING OVER NEW YORK I COULDN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT THE SKELETON!
"I MEAN, THINK OF IT! YEARS AGO THE JACKAL CLONED ME, CREATING YOU -- PETER PARKER -- IN THE PROCESS! WE FOUGHT, YOU THOUGHT I WAS DEAD --
"-- AND YOU DUMPED MY BODY DOWN A SMOKESTACK!
"BUT I WAS *ALIVE!*
"THE JACKAL *CLAIMED* HE PULLED ME OUT!
"BUT THEN THOSE WORKERS FIND THIS SKELETON IN THE SMOKESTACK -- AND IT'S DRESSED LIKE SPIDER-MAN!
"*HOW CAN THAT BE?!*

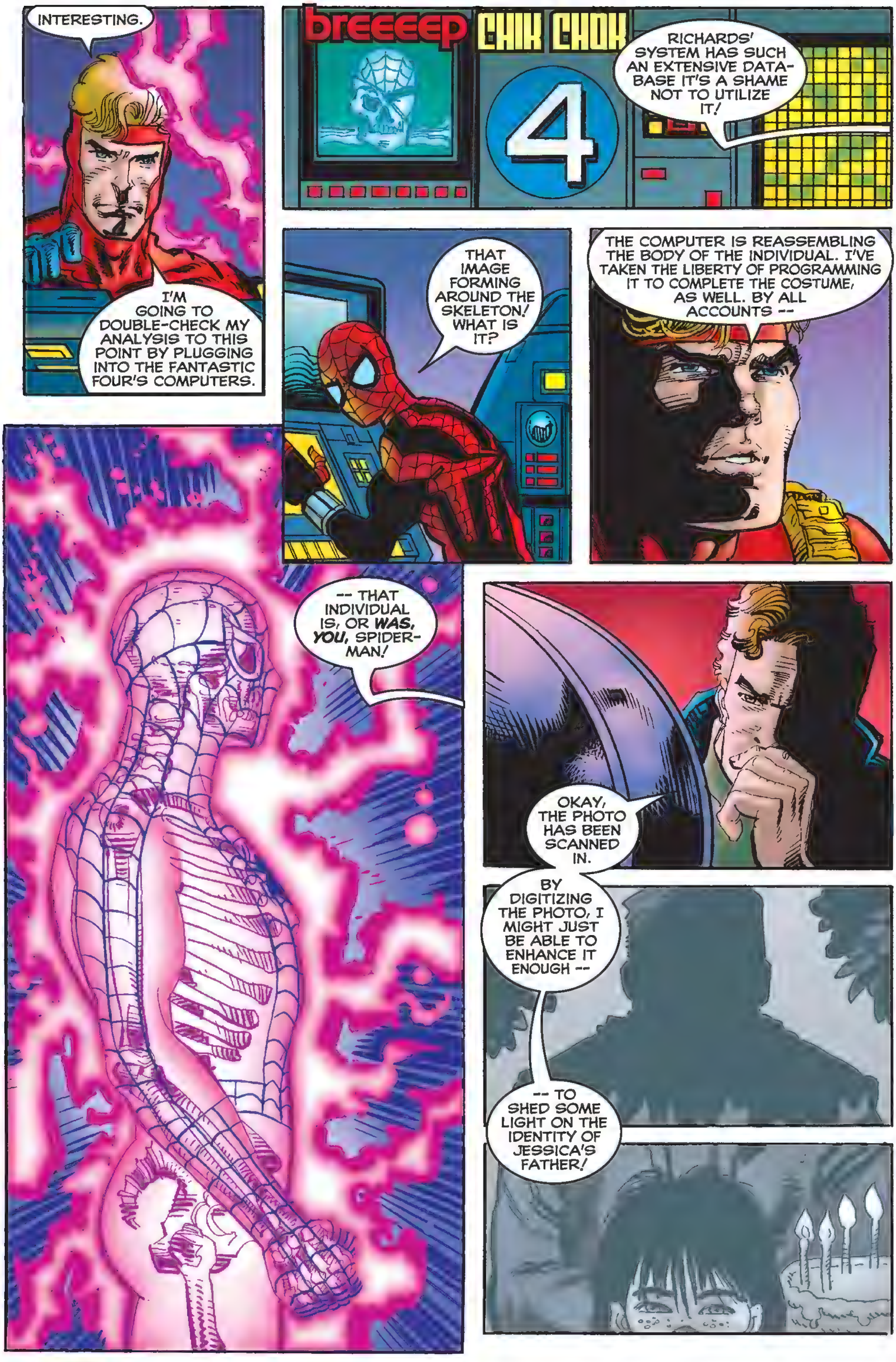

"ALL OF THIS WAS HAUNTING ME WHEN MY SPIDEY-SENSE WENT OFF BIG TIME!
"A MUGGING VICTIM LYING ON THE GROUND. LOOKED LIKE HE'D BEEN ROUGHED UP PRETTY GOOD."
YOU OKAY, MISTER? DO YOU NEED AN AMBULANCE?
NO... NO...
RELAX. I'M ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS! IF YOU WANT PROOF, I CAN SHOW YOU MY GENUINE, 100% AUTHENTIC SUPER HERO BADGE!
NO! GET AWAY FROM ME! YOU'RE HIM! HIM!
YOU'RE ACTING LIKE I'M THE ONE WHO ATTACKED YOU! WHAT GIVES?
YOU ARE! HIS FACE WAS RED -- LIKE YOURS!
THE WAY HE MOVED... SO EERILY! AND HIS EYES... THEY GLOWED IN THE DARK!

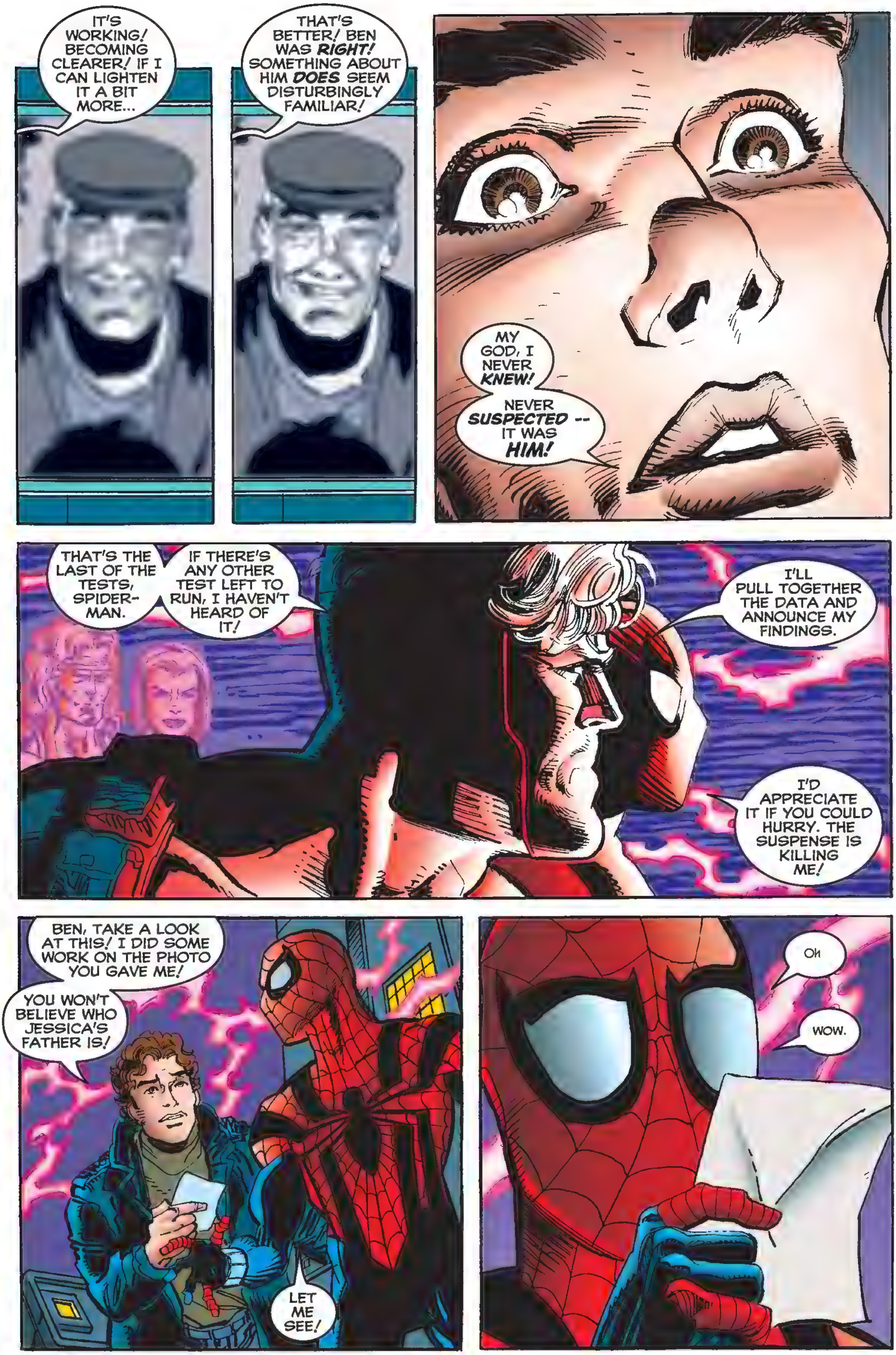

IT WASN'T **ME!** YOU'RE DESCRIBING SOMEONE ELSE! IN FACT, YOUR DESCRIPTION ALMOST SOUNDS LIKE... LIKE...
...**CARNAGE!** IT MUST HAVE BEEN **CARNAGE!**
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO BE OKAY, MISTER! I'VE GOT TO CHECK THIS OUT! IF CARNAGE IS LOOSE --
-- THIS WHOLE CITY IS AT RISK!
"IT DIDN'T TAKE ME LONG TO GET TO **RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE** WHERE **CLETUS KASADY,** A.K.A. CARNAGE, IS LOCKED UP.
"I KNEW I'D FIND MY ANSWERS INSIDE, COURTESY OF --"
JOHN JAMESON! DID I TAKE YOU AWAY FROM SOMETHING IMPORTANT?
JUST RESTING, SPIDER-MAN. IT'S BEEN A LONG, HARD DAY.
WHAT BRINGS THE BEST FRIEND RAVENCROFT EVER HAD TO PAY A VISIT HERE AT THIS LATE HOUR?
YOU'RE SECURITY CHIEF HERE. I NEED TO KNOW IF CARNAGE HAS ESCAPED!
OF COURSE NOT! KASADY IS LOCKED UP SAFE AND SOUND!
ARE YOU **SURE?**
I'LL PROVE IT TO YOU NOW! WE HAVE HIS CELL MONITORED TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY!

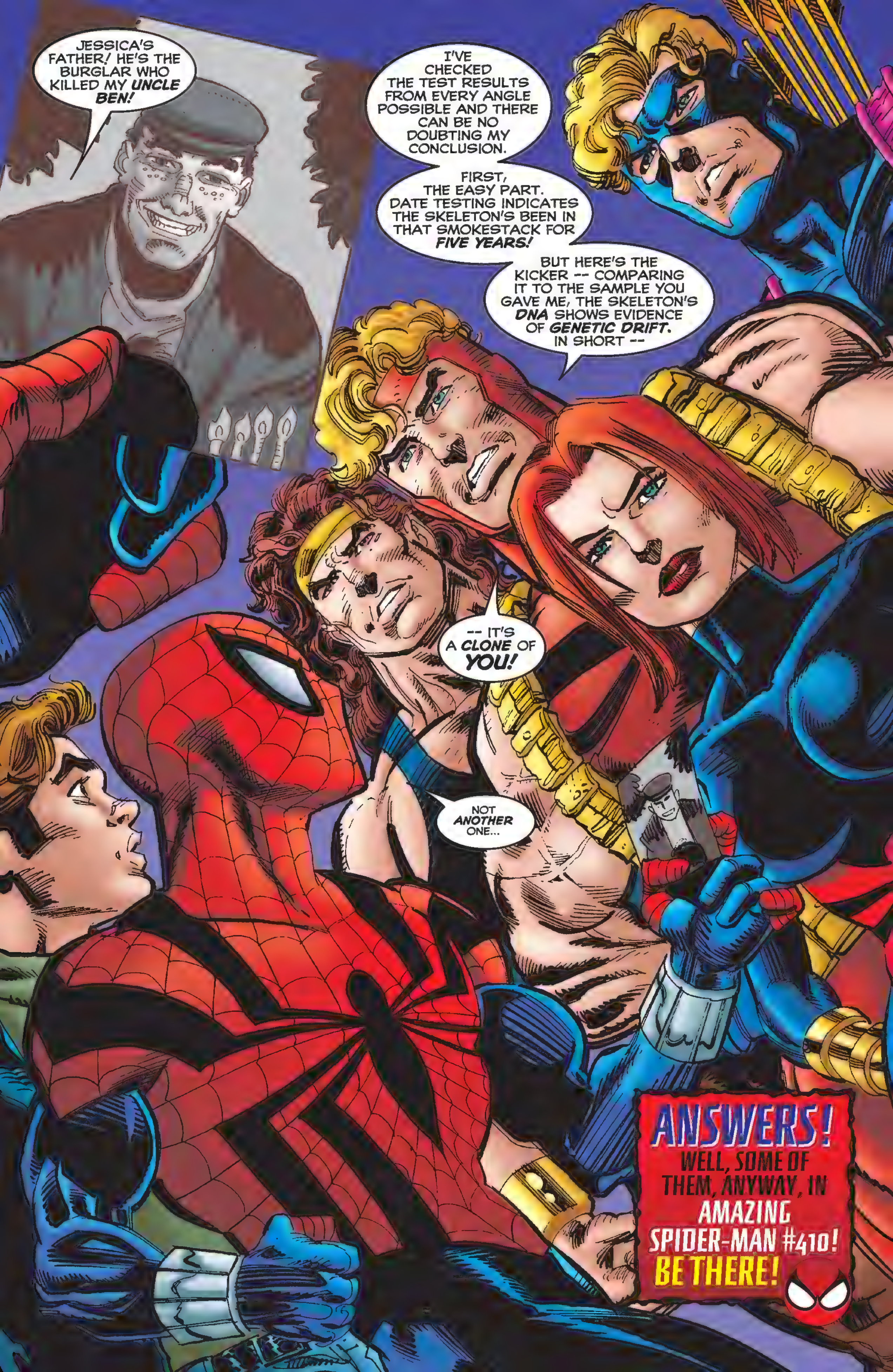

THAT'S *HIM?* YOU'RE SURE IT'S *LIVE* AND NOT ON TAPE?
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, SPIDER-MAN. THAT'S YOUR FRIEND CLETUS KASADY, ALL RIGHT.
HE'S TUCKED AWAY SAFE AND SOUND IN HIS CELL AND THERE'S NO *WAY* HE COULD HAVE ESCAPED!
IF YOU SAY SO...
BZZZZZZTTT
WHAT IS *THAT?!*
INTRUDER ALARM! YOU MUST HAVE SET IT OFF WHEN YOU SNUCK INSIDE!
EITHER THAT OR THE SYSTEM HAS TRIPPED ITSELF!
WE HAVE BEEN HAVING SOME PROBLEMS RECENTLY!
THE *LAST* THING I NEED IS A RUN-IN WITH THE COPS!
YEAH, I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU ABOUT THOSE STORIES MY *FATHER* HAS BEEN WRITING ABOUT YOU!
"I WAS ON THE VERGE OF LEAVING WHEN THE POLICE PULLED UP!
"AFTER I GOT DONE DANCING IN THE MOSH PIT WITH THEM, *YOU* SHOWED --"
-- IN THIS COOL RENTAL. I GUESS JONAH JAMESON IS REALLY PAYING YOU WELL FOR COVERING THIS SKELETON STORY!
HE SHOULD BE! THE MAN OWES ME ABOUT THREE LIFETIMES OF BACK PAY!
QUIET DOWN. I'M CALLING JARVIS TO LET HIM KNOW WE'RE ON THE WAY!

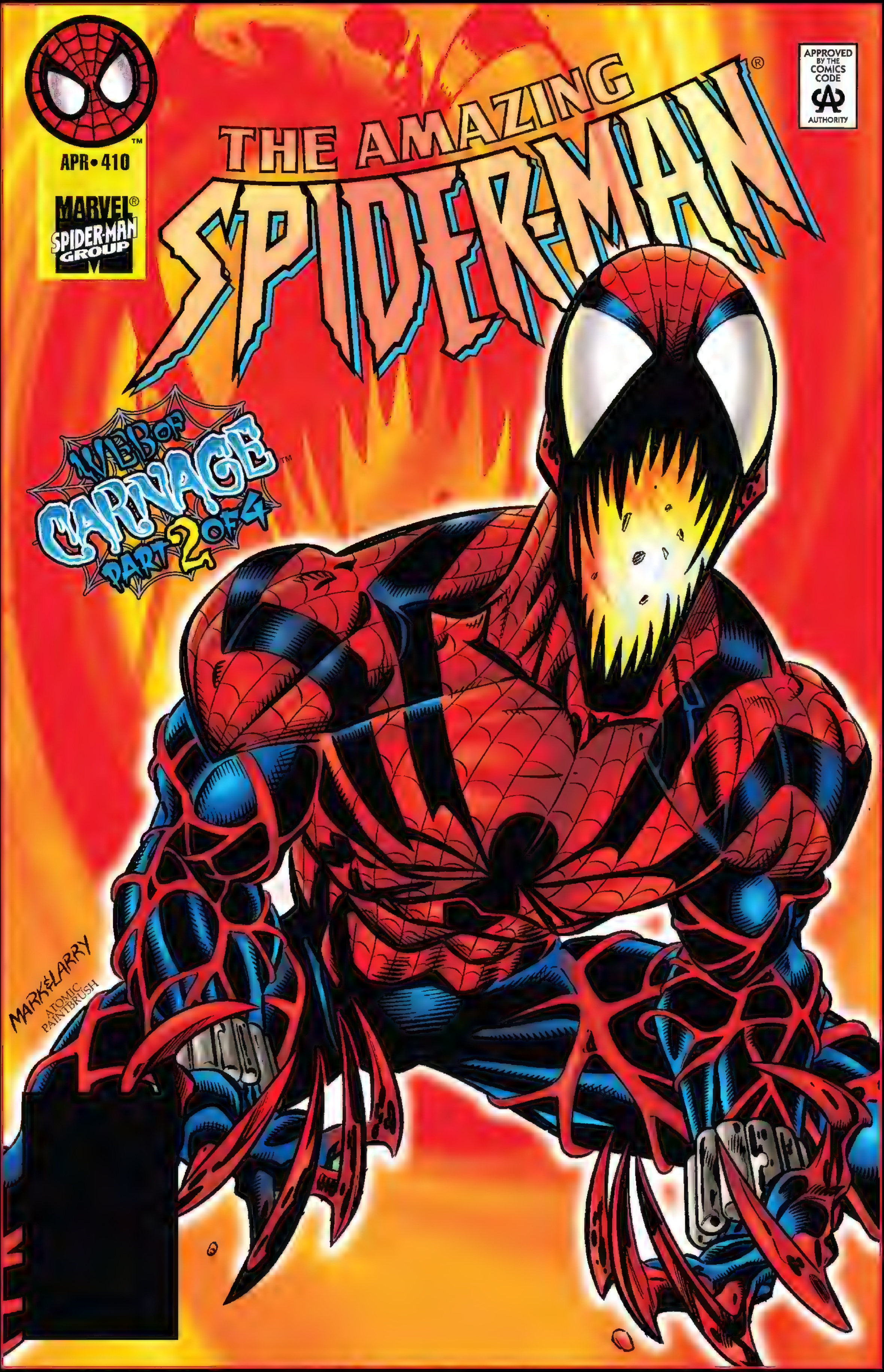

WOW! WHAT A PLACE!
YEAH, I READ THE AVENGERS' MANSION GOT TRASHED,* SO THEY'VE MOVED THEIR H.Q. OUT OF THE CITY TO JANET VAN DYNE'S PLACE!
WITH A HANGOUT LIKE THIS, I MIGHT JUST NEED TO ENLIST!
* SEE AVENGERS: TIMESLIDE FOR DETAILS. – Bob
WE DON'T USUALLY ALLOW PHOTOGRAPHERS ON THE PREMISES, SPIDER-MAN.
I'M ALREADY BENDING THE RULES BY ALLOWING *YOU* HERE. TECHNICALLY, YOU *ARE* A WANTED FELON!
CAN YOU CUT ME SOME SLACK ON THIS, GIANT-MAN? WITH ALL THE GRIEF THE DAILY BUGLE HAS BEEN GIVING ME OVER THIS SKELETON I, ah...
...*BORROWED*...
...I'D LIKE THEIR PHOTOGRAPHER TO BE HERE WHEN I PROVE I'M NOT AN IMPOSTOR WHO *MURDERED* THE REAL SPIDER-MAN!
IT'S AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGMENT, BUT AS AN EX-AVENGER YOU'RE PRIVILEGED TO MAKE SUCH A REQUEST.
I TRUST YOUR FRIEND WON'T PHOTOGRAPH ANY CLASSIFIED EQUIPMENT.
NO PROBLEMO, G-MAN! PETEY HERE DOES WHATEVER I TELL HIM! RIGHT, PETEY?
PETEY?

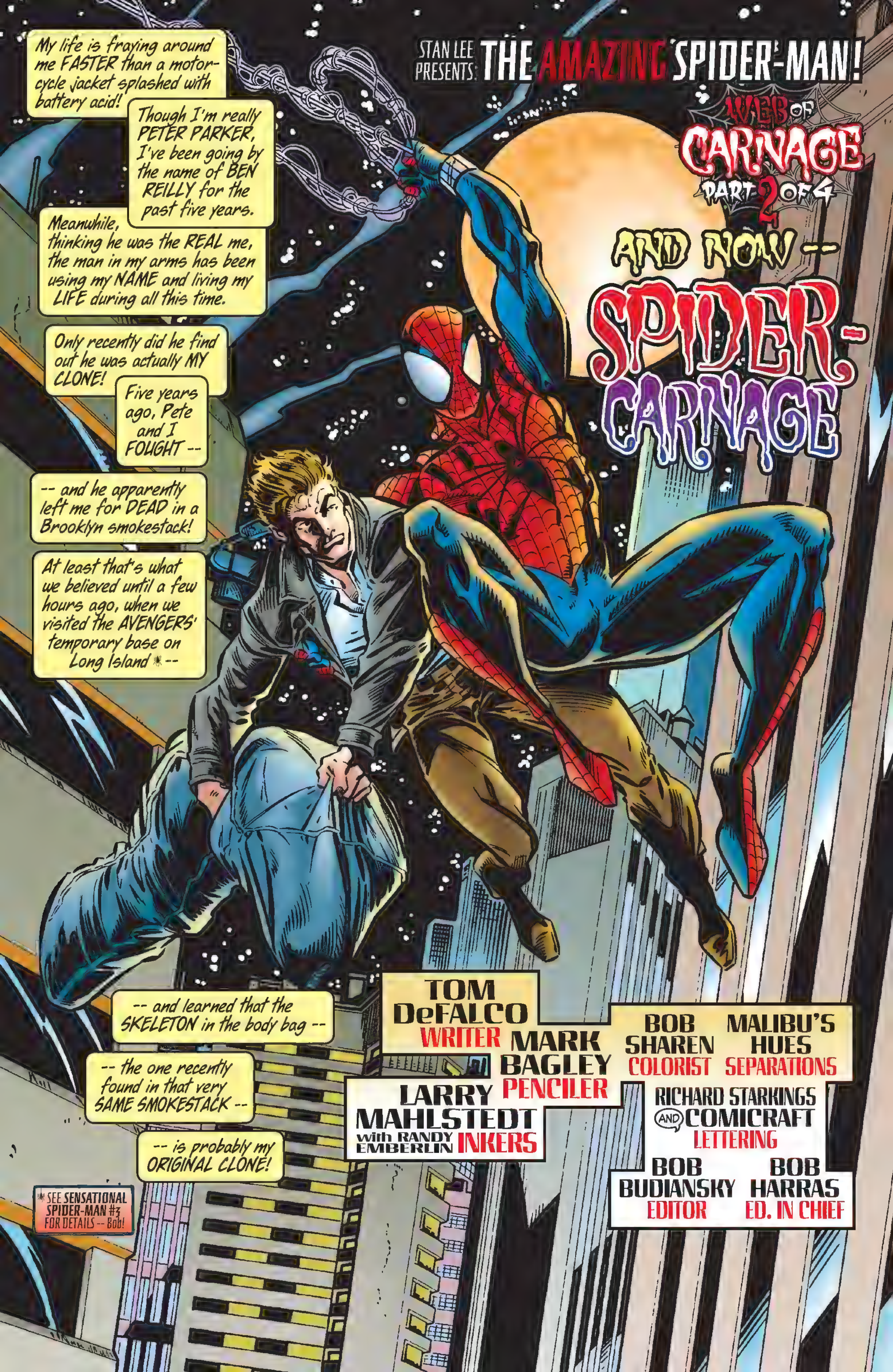

FORTUNATELY, THE LAB FACILITIES HERE ARE STATE-OF-THE-ART, SURPASSING ANYTHING I'VE HAD BEFORE.
NOW, CAN YOU TELL ME EXACTLY WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR?
I WANT YOU TO EXAMINE THE SKELETON'S GENETIC STRUCTURE AND COMPARE IT TO THE BLOOD SAMPLE I GAVE YOU.
YOUR SAMPLE?
THAT WOULD BE A GOOD GUESS.
Hmm...
I'LL RUN THE COMPLETE GAMUT OF TESTS.
WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO DETERMINE HOW LONG YOUR FRIEND HAS BEEN DEAD, AS WELL.
HEY, GIANT MAN! IS THIS A PHOTO-ENHANCER OVER HERE?
MUMBLE MUMBLE
WELL, IT SURE LOOKS LIKE ONE. AND SINCE NOBODY'S USING IT, I MIGHT AS WELL LOAD IN THAT PHOTO OF JESSICA AND HER FATHER.

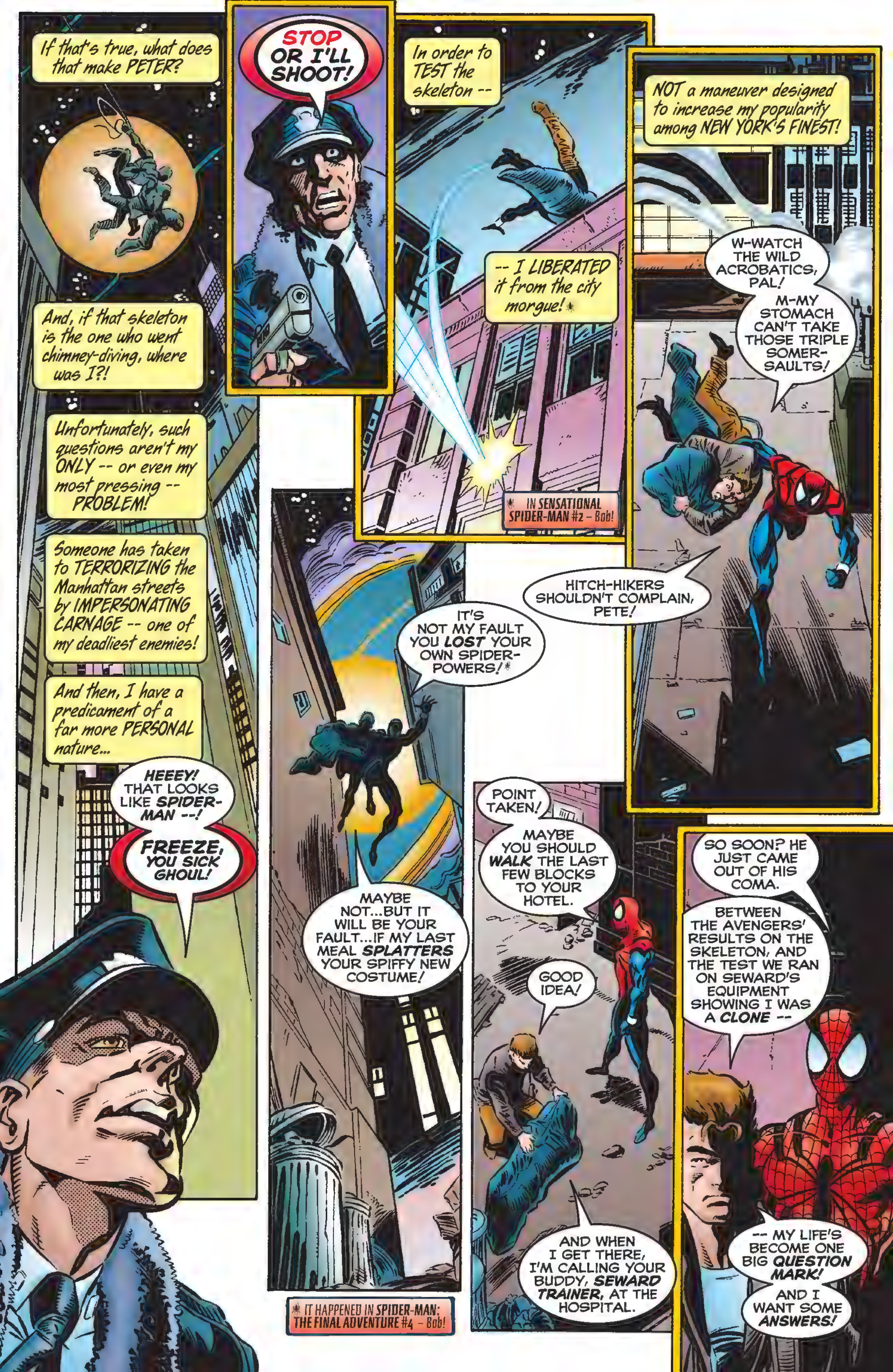

INTERESTING.
I'M GOING TO DOUBLE-CHECK MY ANALYSIS TO THIS POINT BY PLUGGING INTO THE FANTASTIC FOUR'S COMPUTERS.
breeeep
CHIK CHOK
4
RICHARDS' SYSTEM HAS SUCH AN EXTENSIVE DATA-BASE IT'S A SHAME NOT TO UTILIZE IT!
THAT IMAGE FORMING AROUND THE SKELETON! WHAT IS IT?
THE COMPUTER IS REASSEMBLING THE BODY OF THE INDIVIDUAL. I'VE TAKEN THE LIBERTY OF PROGRAMMING IT TO COMPLETE THE COSTUME, AS WELL. BY ALL ACCOUNTS --
-- THAT INDIVIDUAL IS, OR ***WAS, YOU***, SPIDER-MAN!
OKAY, THE PHOTO HAS BEEN SCANNED IN.
BY DIGITIZING THE PHOTO, I MIGHT JUST BE ABLE TO ENHANCE IT ENOUGH --
-- TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON THE IDENTITY OF JESSICA'S FATHER!

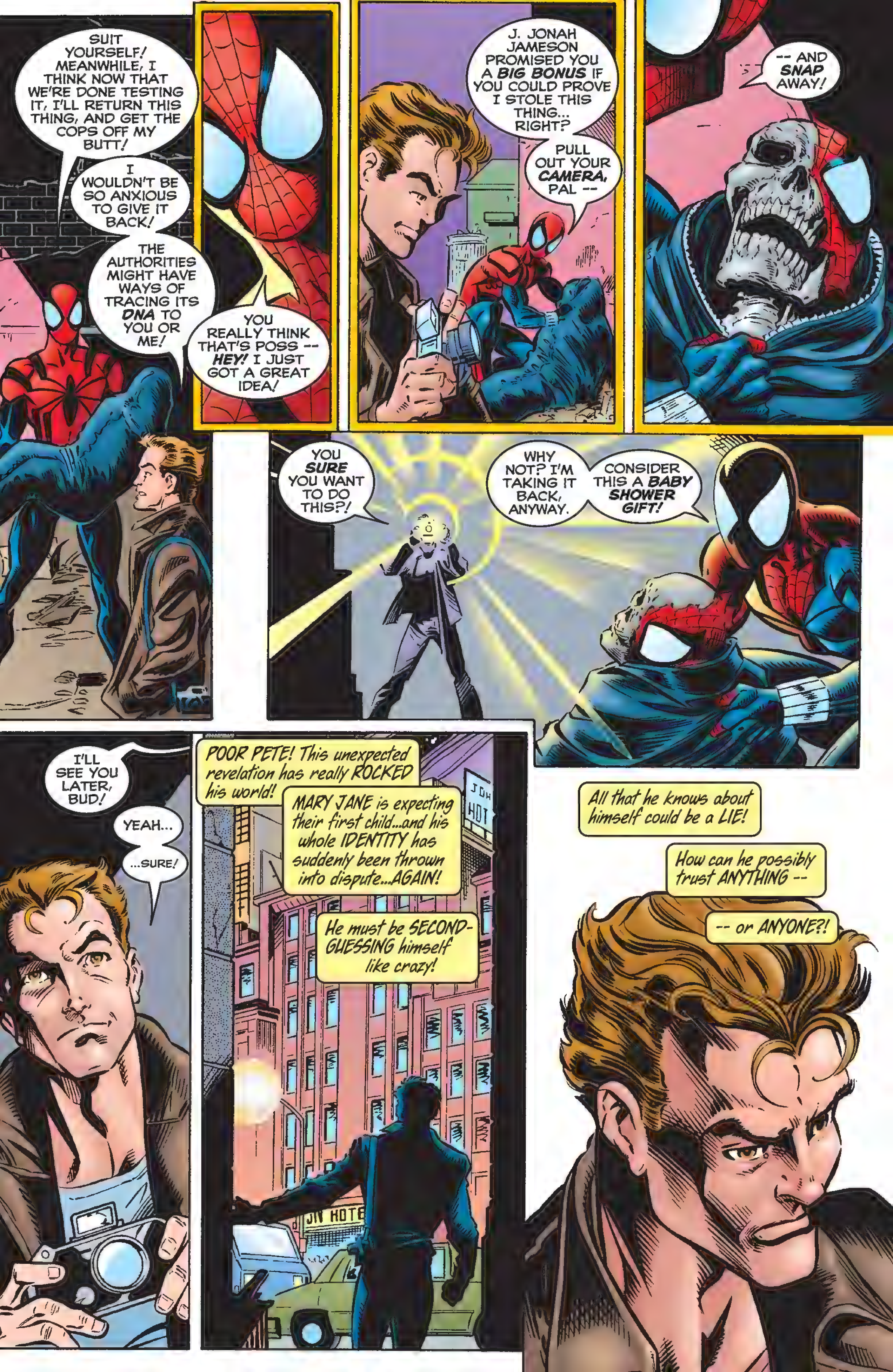

IT'S WORKING! BECOMING CLEARER! IF I CAN LIGHTEN IT A BIT MORE...
THAT'S BETTER! BEN WAS *RIGHT!* SOMETHING ABOUT HIM *DOES* SEEM DISTURBINGLY FAMILIAR!
MY GOD, I NEVER *KNEW!*
NEVER *SUSPECTED* -- IT WAS *HIM!*
THAT'S THE LAST OF THE TESTS, SPIDER-MAN.
IF THERE'S ANY OTHER TEST LEFT TO RUN, I HAVEN'T HEARD OF IT!
I'LL PULL TOGETHER THE DATA AND ANNOUNCE MY FINDINGS.
I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD HURRY. THE SUSPENSE IS KILLING ME!
BEN, TAKE A LOOK AT THIS! I DID SOME WORK ON THE PHOTO YOU GAVE ME!
YOU WON'T BELIEVE WHO JESSICA'S FATHER IS!
LET ME SEE!
Oh
WOW.

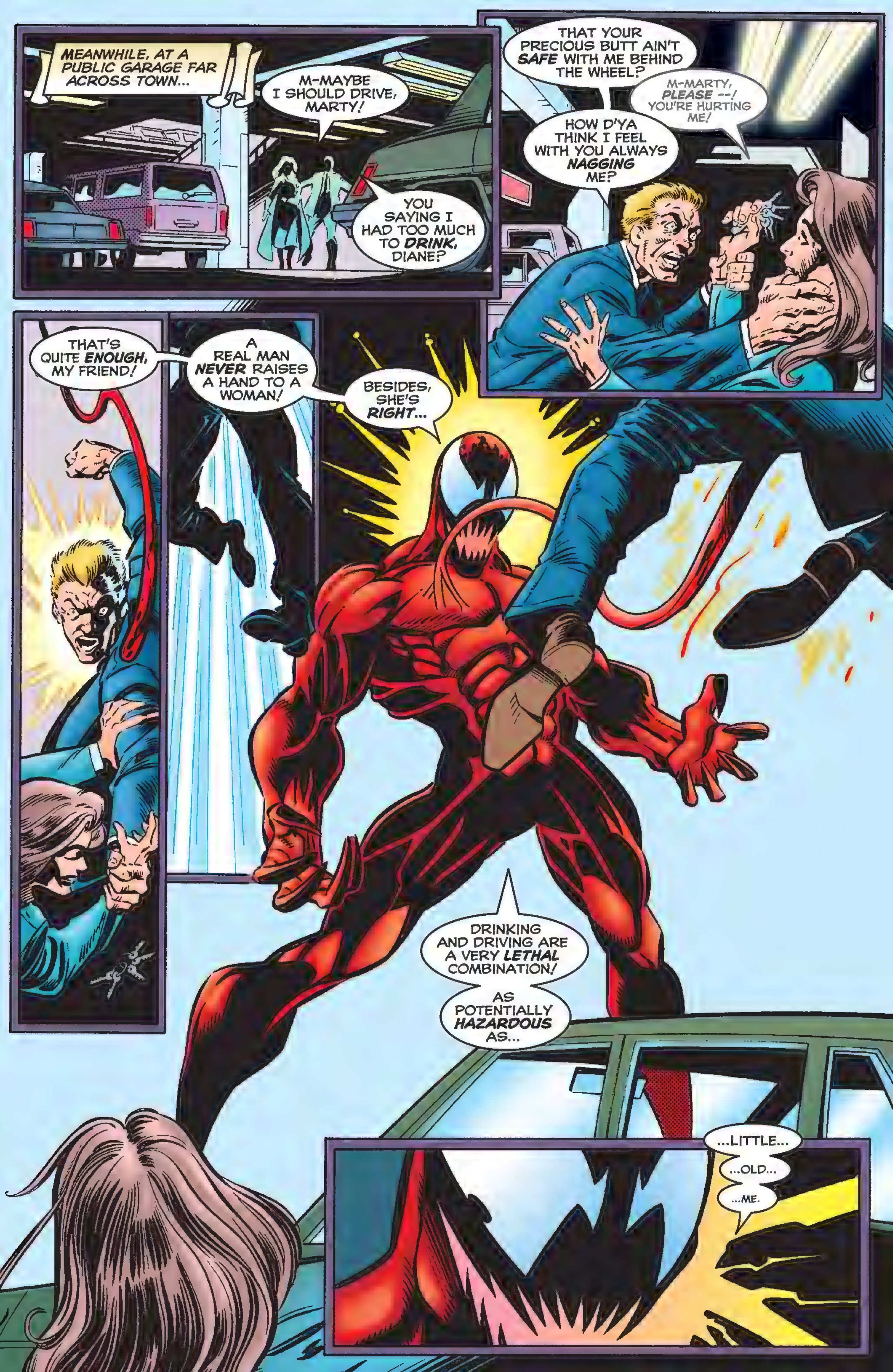

JESSICA'S FATHER! HE'S THE BURGLAR WHO KILLED MY **UNCLE BEN!**
I'VE CHECKED THE TEST RESULTS FROM EVERY ANGLE POSSIBLE AND THERE CAN BE NO DOUBTING MY CONCLUSION.
FIRST, THE EASY PART. DATE TESTING INDICATES THE SKELETON'S BEEN IN THAT SMOKESTACK FOR ***FIVE YEARS!***
BUT HERE'S THE KICKER -- COMPARING IT TO THE SAMPLE YOU GAVE ME, THE SKELETON'S ***DNA*** SHOWS EVIDENCE OF ***GENETIC DRIFT.*** IN SHORT --
-- IT'S A ***CLONE*** OF ***YOU!***
NOT ***ANOTHER*** ONE...
ANSWERS! WELL, SOME OF THEM, ANYWAY, IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #410! BE THERE!

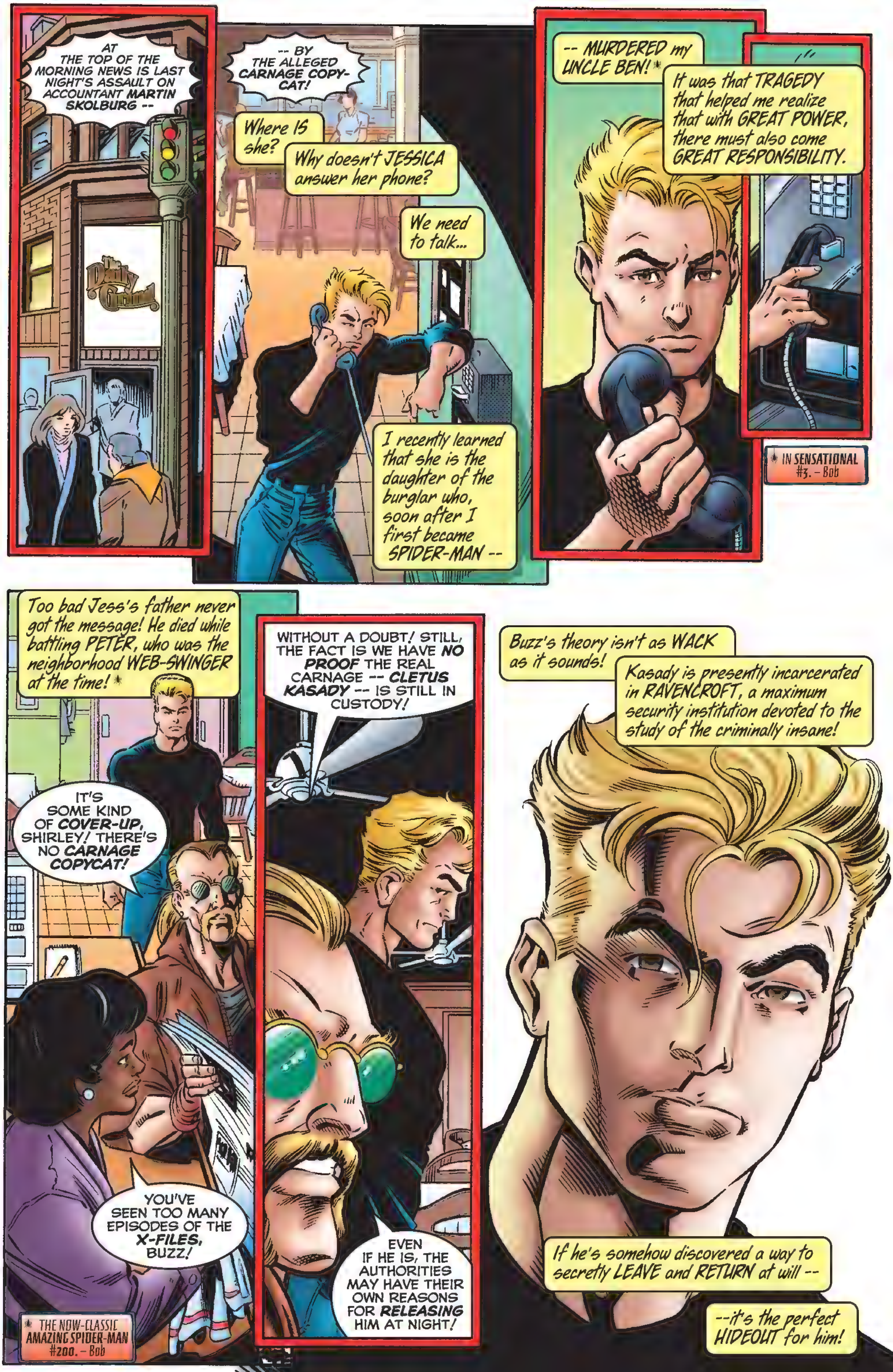

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
APR • 410
MARVEL® SPIDER-MAN GROUP
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
WEB OF CARNAGE™ PART 2 OF 4
MARK & LARRY
ATOMIC PAINTBRUSH

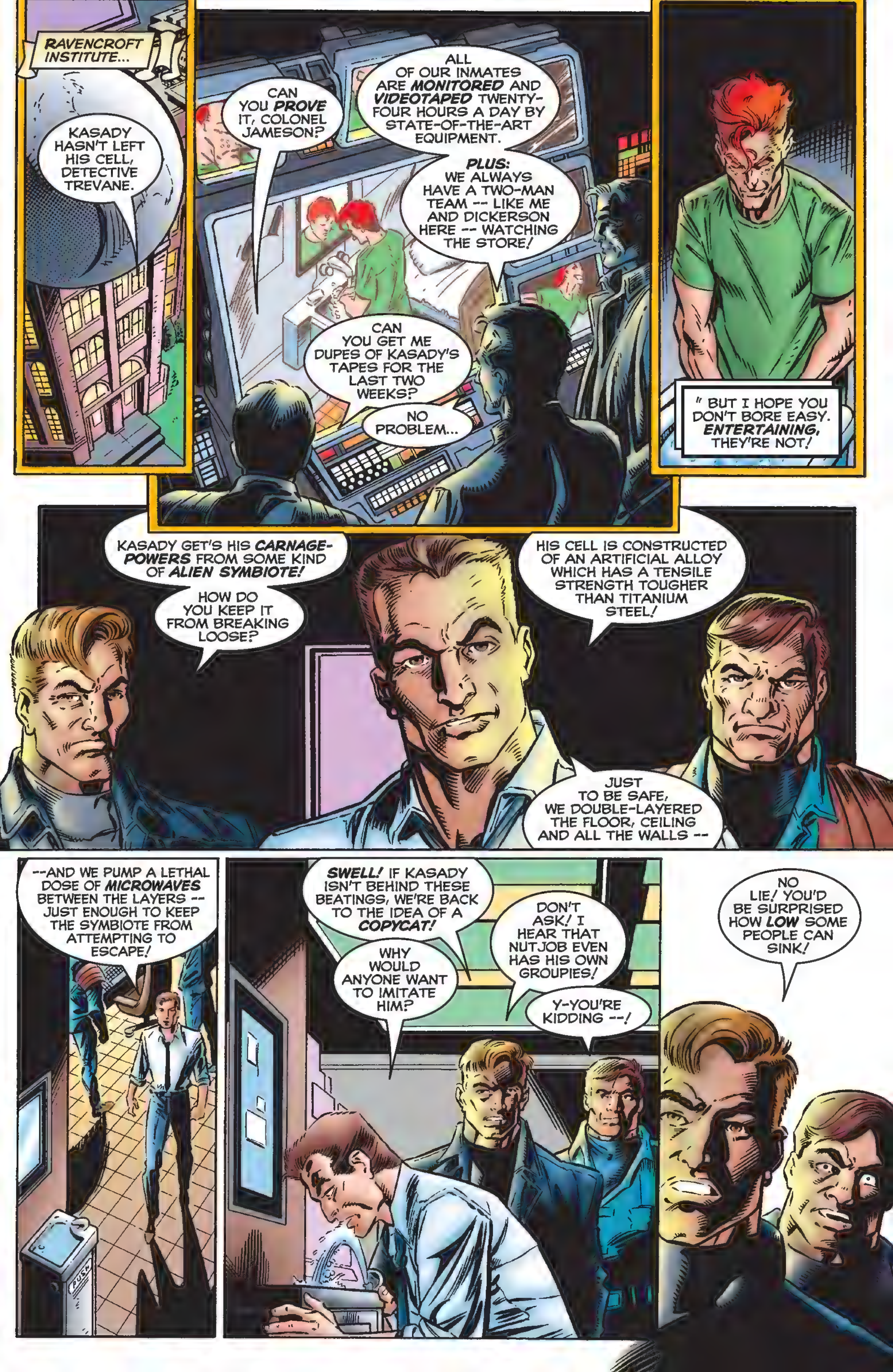

STAN LEE PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!
WEB OF CARNAGE PART 2 OF 4
AND NOW -- SPIDER-CARNAGE
My life is fraying around me FASTER than a motorcycle jacket splashed with battery acid!
Though I'm really PETER PARKER, I've been going by the name of BEN REILLY for the past five years.
Meanwhile, thinking he was the REAL me, the man in my arms has been using my NAME and living my LIFE during all this time.
Only recently did he find out he was actually MY CLONE!
Five years ago, Pete and I FOUGHT --
-- and he apparently left me for DEAD in a Brooklyn smokestack!
At least that's what we believed until a few hours ago, when we visited the AVENGERS' temporary base on Long Island --
-- and learned that the SKELETON in the body bag --
-- the one recently found in that very SAME SMOKESTACK --
-- is probably my ORIGINAL CLONE!
SEE SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #3 FOR DETAILS -- Bob!
TOM DeFALCO WRITER
MARK BAGLEY PENCILER
LARRY MAHLSTEDT with RANDY EMBERLIN INKERS
BOB SHAREN COLORIST
MALIBU'S HUES SEPARATIONS
RICHARD STARKINGS AND COMICRAFT LETTERING
BOB BUDIANSKY EDITOR
BOB HARRAS ED. IN CHIEF

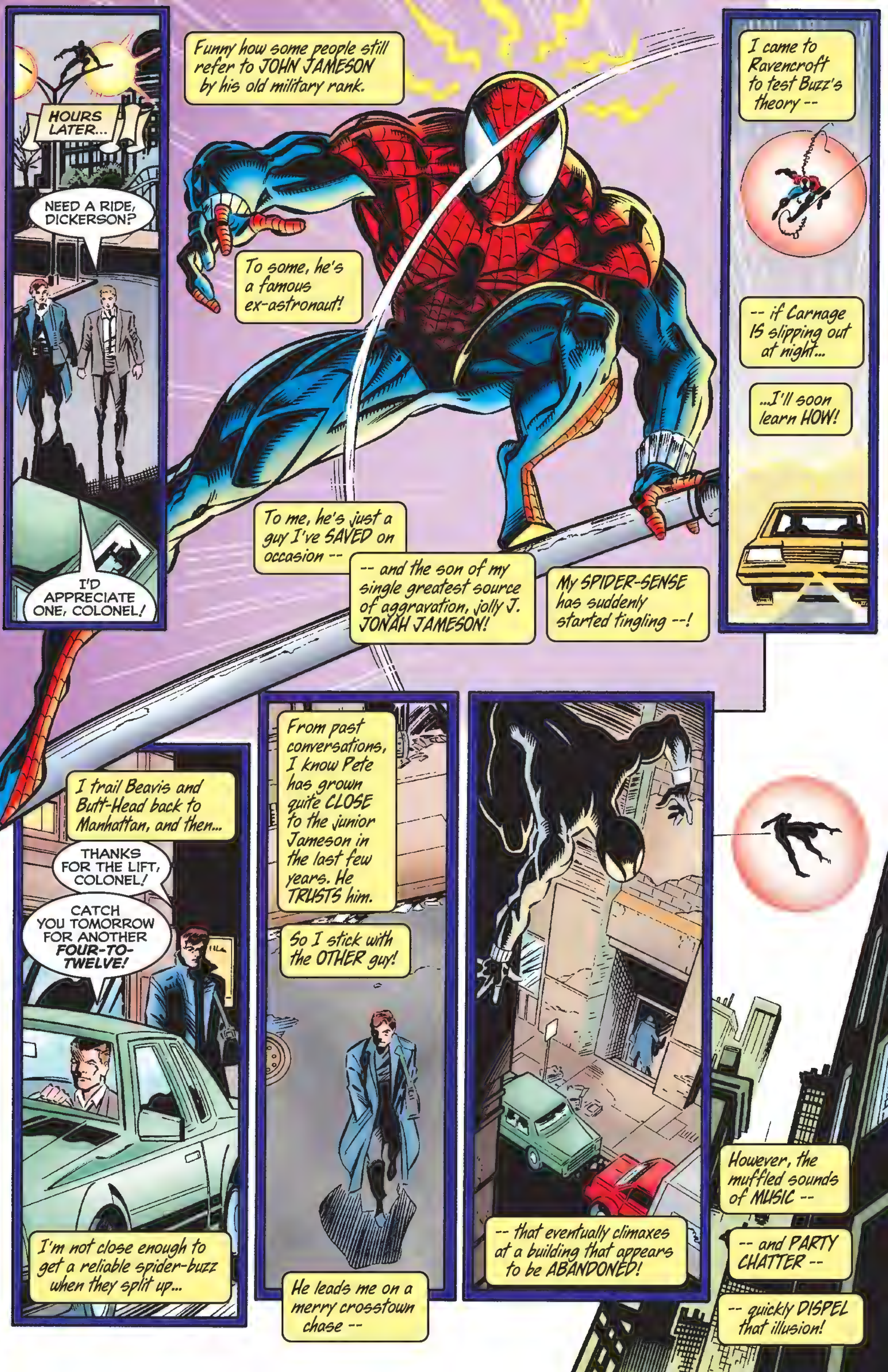

If that's true, what does that make PETER?
And, if that skeleton is the one who went chimney-diving, where was I?!
Unfortunately, such questions aren't my ONLY -- or even my most pressing -- PROBLEM!
Someone has taken to TERRORIZING the Manhattan streets by IMPERSONATING CARNAGE -- one of my deadliest enemies!
And then, I have a predicament of a far more PERSONAL nature...
HEEEY! THAT LOOKS LIKE SPIDER-MAN --!
FREEZE, YOU SICK GHOUL!
STOP OR I'LL SHOOT!
In order to TEST the skeleton --
-- I LIBERATED it from the city morgue!
IN SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #2 – Bob!
NOT a maneuver designed to increase my popularity among NEW YORK'S FINEST!
W-WATCH THE WILD ACROBATICS, PAL!
M-MY STOMACH CAN'T TAKE THOSE TRIPLE SOMER-SAULTS!
HITCH-HIKERS SHOULDN'T COMPLAIN, PETE!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT YOU LOST YOUR OWN SPIDER-POWERS!
MAYBE NOT...BUT IT WILL BE YOUR FAULT...IF MY LAST MEAL SPLATTERS YOUR SPIFFY NEW COSTUME!
IT HAPPENED IN SPIDER-MAN: THE FINAL ADVENTURE #4 – Bob!
POINT TAKEN!
MAYBE YOU SHOULD WALK THE LAST FEW BLOCKS TO YOUR HOTEL.
GOOD IDEA!
AND WHEN I GET THERE, I'M CALLING YOUR BUDDY, SEWARD TRAINER, AT THE HOSPITAL.
SO SOON? HE JUST CAME OUT OF HIS COMA.
BETWEEN THE AVENGERS' RESULTS ON THE SKELETON, AND THE TEST WE RAN ON SEWARD'S EQUIPMENT SHOWING I WAS A CLONE --
-- MY LIFE'S BECOME ONE BIG QUESTION MARK!
AND I WANT SOME ANSWERS!

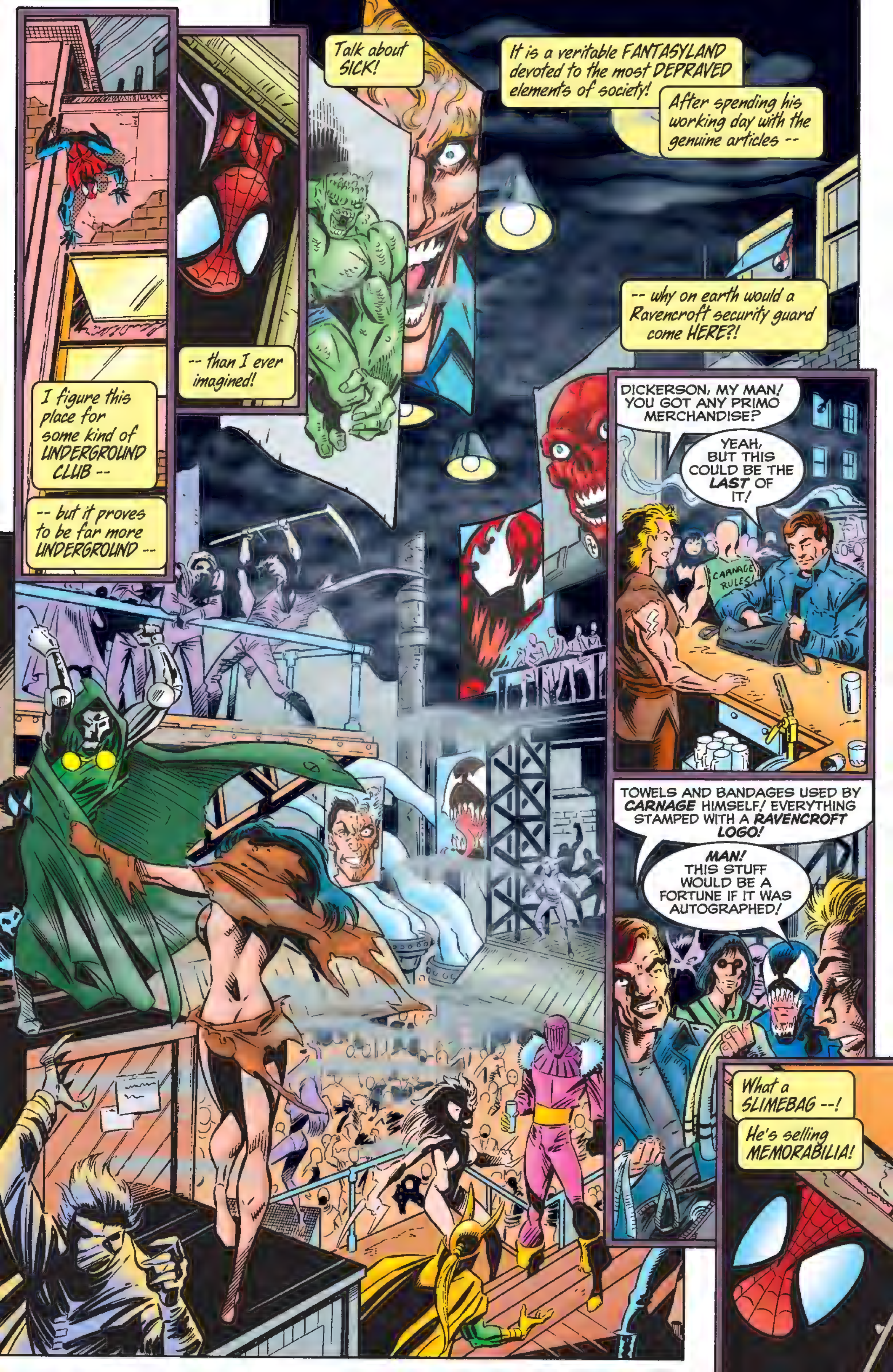

SUIT YOURSELF! MEANWHILE, I THINK NOW THAT WE'RE DONE TESTING IT, I'LL RETURN THIS THING, AND GET THE COPS OFF MY BUTT!
I WOULDN'T BE SO ANXIOUS TO GIVE IT BACK!
THE AUTHORITIES MIGHT HAVE WAYS OF TRACING ITS **DNA** TO YOU OR ME!
YOU REALLY THINK THAT'S POSS -- ***HEY!*** I JUST GOT A GREAT IDEA!
J. JONAH JAMESON PROMISED YOU A ***BIG BONUS*** IF YOU COULD PROVE I STOLE THIS THING... RIGHT?
PULL OUT YOUR ***CAMERA,*** PAL --
-- AND ***SNAP*** AWAY!
YOU ***SURE*** YOU WANT TO DO THIS?!
WHY NOT? I'M TAKING IT BACK, ANYWAY.
CONSIDER THIS A ***BABY SHOWER GIFT!***
I'LL SEE YOU LATER, BUD!
YEAH...
...SURE!
POOR PETE! This unexpected revelation has really ROCKED his world!
MARY JANE is expecting their first child...and his whole IDENTITY has suddenly been thrown into dispute...AGAIN!
He must be SECOND-GUESSING himself like crazy!
JN HOTE
All that he knows about himself could be a LIE!
How can he possibly trust ANYTHING --
-- or ANYONE?!

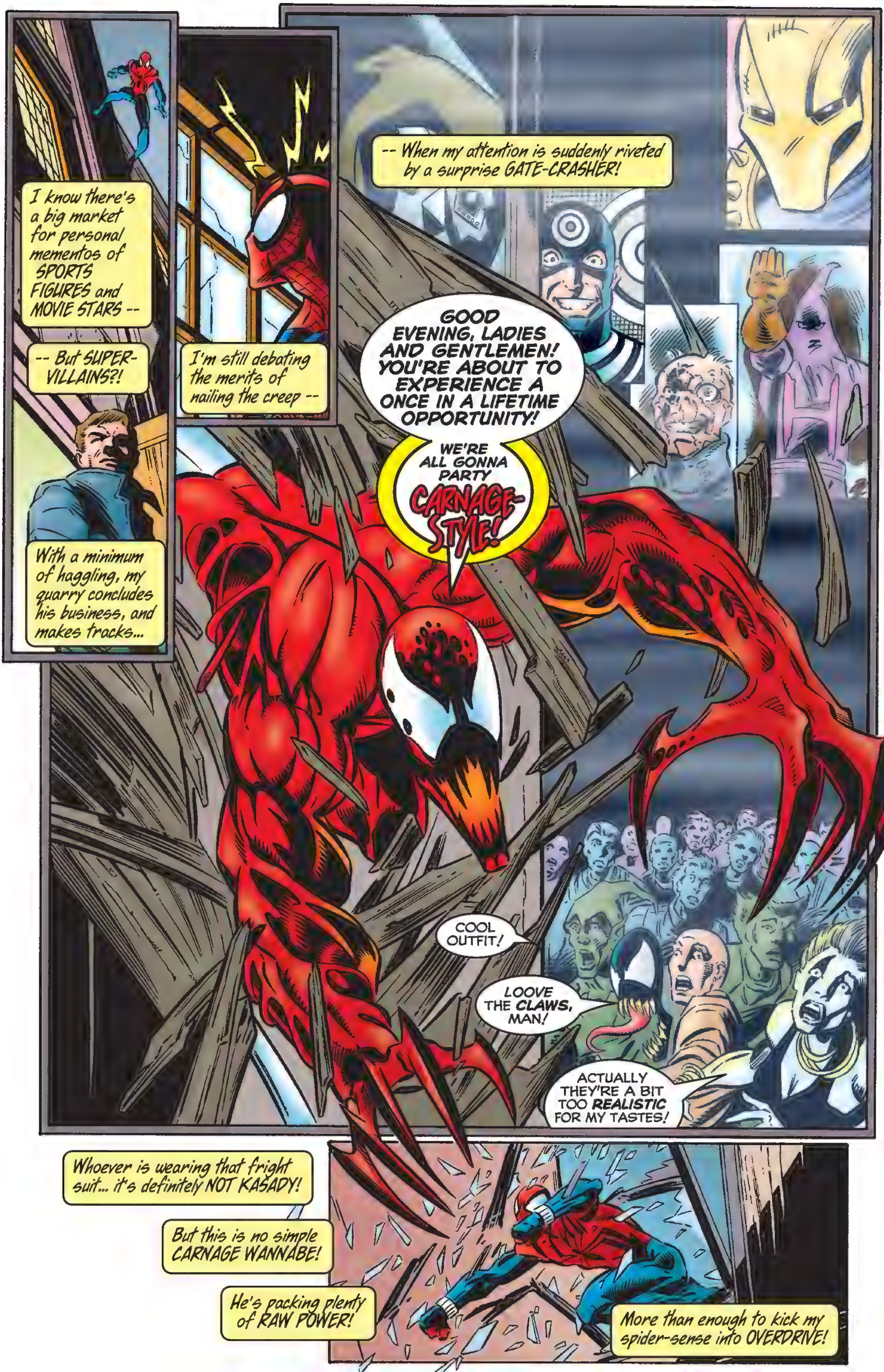

MEANWHILE, AT A PUBLIC GARAGE FAR ACROSS TOWN...
M-MAYBE I SHOULD DRIVE, MARTY!
YOU SAYING I HAD TOO MUCH TO *DRINK*, DIANE?
THAT YOUR PRECIOUS BUTT AIN'T *SAFE* WITH ME BEHIND THE WHEEL?
HOW D'YA THINK I FEEL WITH YOU ALWAYS *NAGGING* ME?
M-MARTY, *PLEASE* --! YOU'RE HURTING ME!
THAT'S QUITE *ENOUGH*, MY FRIEND!
A REAL MAN *NEVER* RAISES A HAND TO A WOMAN!
BESIDES, SHE'S *RIGHT*...
DRINKING AND DRIVING ARE A VERY *LETHAL* COMBINATION!
AS POTENTIALLY *HAZARDOUS* AS...
...LITTLE...
...OLD...
...ME.

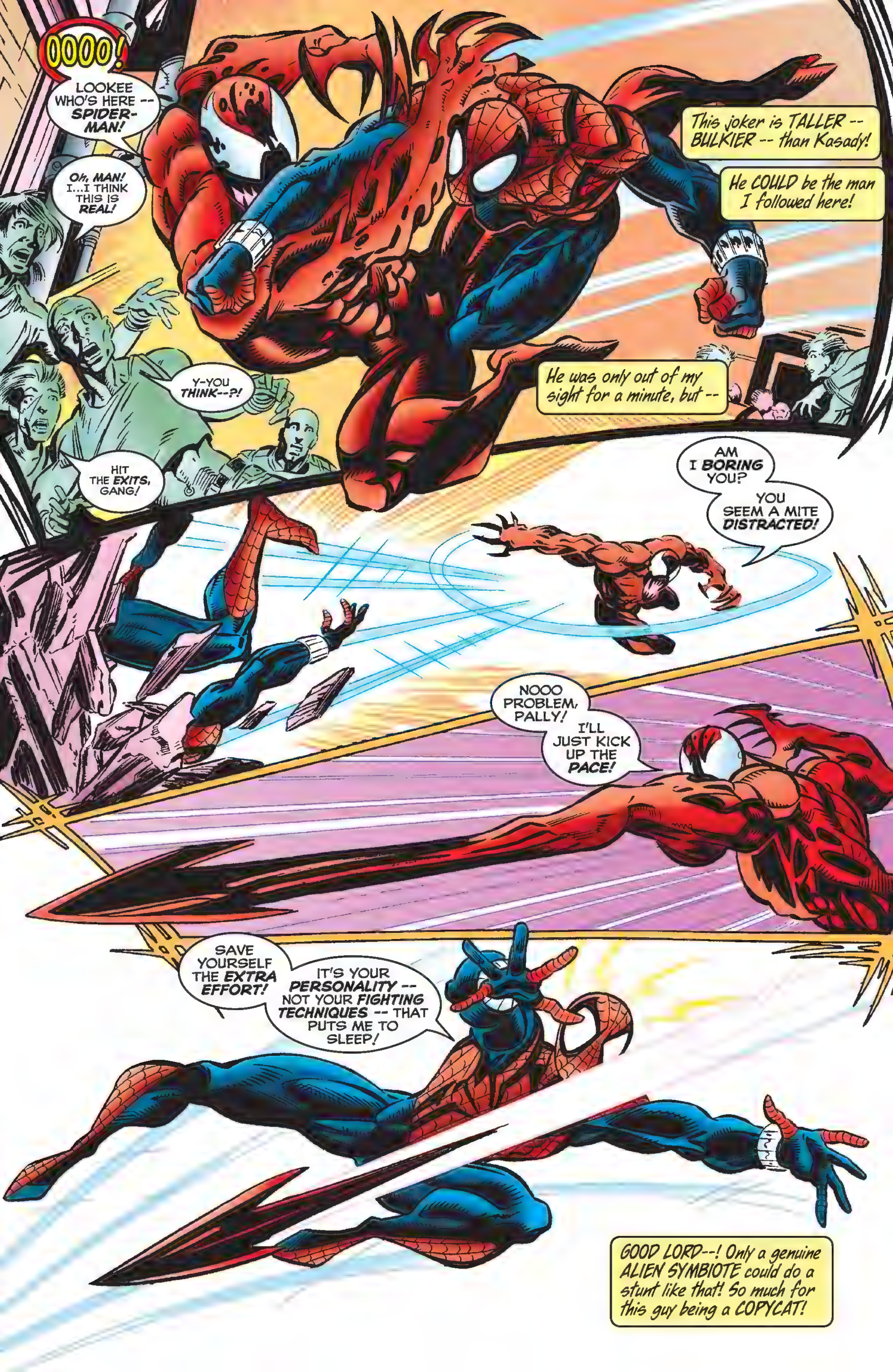

AT THE TOP OF THE MORNING NEWS IS LAST NIGHT'S ASSAULT ON ACCOUNTANT MARTIN SKOLBURG --
The Daily Grind
-- BY THE ALLEGED CARNAGE COPY-CAT!
Where IS she?
Why doesn't JESSICA answer her phone?
We need to talk...
I recently learned that she is the daughter of the burglar who, soon after I first became SPIDER-MAN --
-- MURDERED my UNCLE BEN!*
It was that TRAGEDY that helped me realize that with GREAT POWER, there must also come GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.
* IN SENSATIONAL #3. – Bob
Too bad Jess's father never got the message! He died while battling PETER, who was the neighborhood WEB-SWINGER at the time!*
IT'S SOME KIND OF COVER-UP, SHIRLEY! THERE'S NO CARNAGE COPYCAT!
YOU'VE SEEN TOO MANY EPISODES OF THE X-FILES, BUZZ!
* THE NOW-CLASSIC AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #200. – Bob
WITHOUT A DOUBT! STILL, THE FACT IS WE HAVE NO PROOF THE REAL CARNAGE -- CLETUS KASADY -- IS STILL IN CUSTODY!
EVEN IF HE IS, THE AUTHORITIES MAY HAVE THEIR OWN REASONS FOR RELEASING HIM AT NIGHT!
Buzz's theory isn't as WACK as it sounds!
Kasady is presently incarcerated in RAVENCROFT, a maximum security institution devoted to the study of the criminally insane!
If he's somehow discovered a way to secretly LEAVE and RETURN at will --
--it's the perfect HIDEOUT for him!

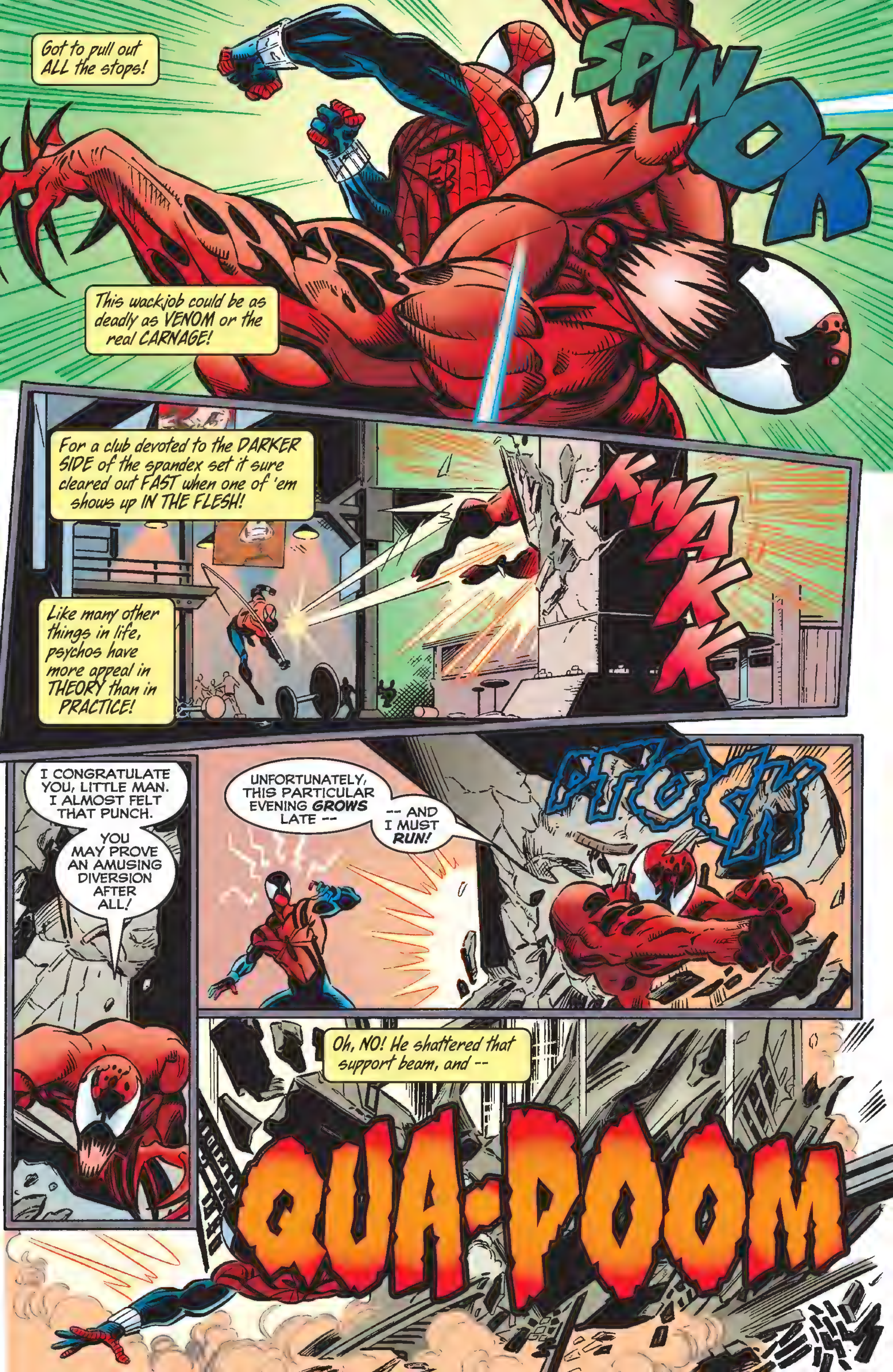

RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE...
KASADY HASN'T LEFT HIS CELL, DETECTIVE TREVANE.
CAN YOU **PROVE** IT, COLONEL JAMESON?
ALL OF OUR INMATES ARE **MONITORED** AND **VIDEOTAPED** TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY BY STATE-OF-THE-ART EQUIPMENT.
PLUS: WE ALWAYS HAVE A TWO-MAN TEAM -- LIKE ME AND DICKERSON HERE -- WATCHING THE STORE!
CAN YOU GET ME DUPES OF KASADY'S TAPES FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKS?
NO PROBLEM...
" BUT I HOPE YOU DON'T BORE EASY. **ENTERTAINING,** THEY'RE NOT!
KASADY GET'S HIS **CARNAGE-POWERS** FROM SOME KIND OF **ALIEN SYMBIOTE!**
HOW DO YOU KEEP IT FROM BREAKING LOOSE?
HIS CELL IS CONSTRUCTED OF AN ARTIFICIAL ALLOY WHICH HAS A TENSILE STRENGTH TOUGHER THAN TITANIUM STEEL!
JUST TO BE SAFE, WE DOUBLE-LAYERED THE FLOOR, CEILING AND ALL THE WALLS --
--AND WE PUMP A LETHAL DOSE OF **MICROWAVES** BETWEEN THE LAYERS -- JUST ENOUGH TO KEEP THE SYMBIOTE FROM ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE!
PUSH
SWELL! IF KASADY ISN'T BEHIND THESE BEATINGS, WE'RE BACK TO THE IDEA OF A **COPYCAT!**
WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO IMITATE HIM?
DON'T ASK! I HEAR THAT NUTJOB EVEN HAS HIS OWN GROUPIES!
Y-YOU'RE KIDDING --!
NO LIE! YOU'D BE SURPRISED HOW **LOW** SOME PEOPLE CAN SINK!

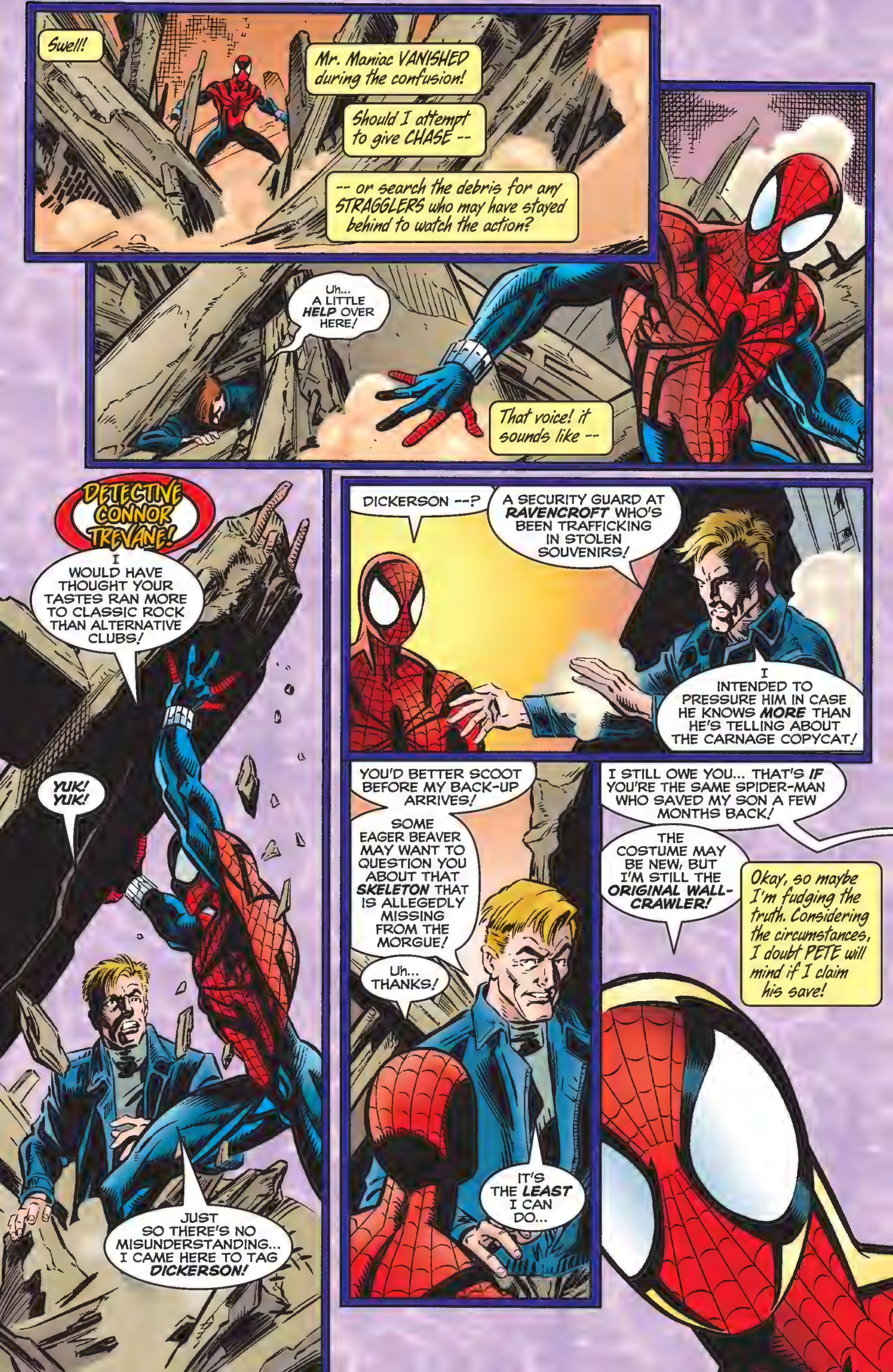

HOURS LATER...
NEED A RIDE, DICKERSON?
I'D APPRECIATE ONE, COLONEL!
Funny how some people still refer to JOHN JAMESON by his old military rank.
To some, he's a famous ex-astronaut!
To me, he's just a guy I've SAVED on occasion --
-- and the son of my single greatest source of aggravation, jolly J. JONAH JAMESON!
My SPIDER-SENSE has suddenly started tingling --!
I came to Ravencroft to test Buzz's theory --
-- if Carnage IS slipping out at night...
...I'll soon learn HOW!
I trail Beavis and Butt-Head back to Manhattan, and then...
THANKS FOR THE LIFT, COLONEL!
CATCH YOU TOMORROW FOR ANOTHER FOUR-TO-TWELVE!
I'm not close enough to get a reliable spider-buzz when they split up...
From past conversations, I know Pete has grown quite CLOSE to the junior Jameson in the last few years. He TRUSTS him.
So I stick with the OTHER guy!
He leads me on a merry crosstown chase --
-- that eventually climaxes at a building that appears to be ABANDONED!
However, the muffled sounds of MUSIC --
-- and PARTY CHATTER --
-- quickly DISPEL that illusion!

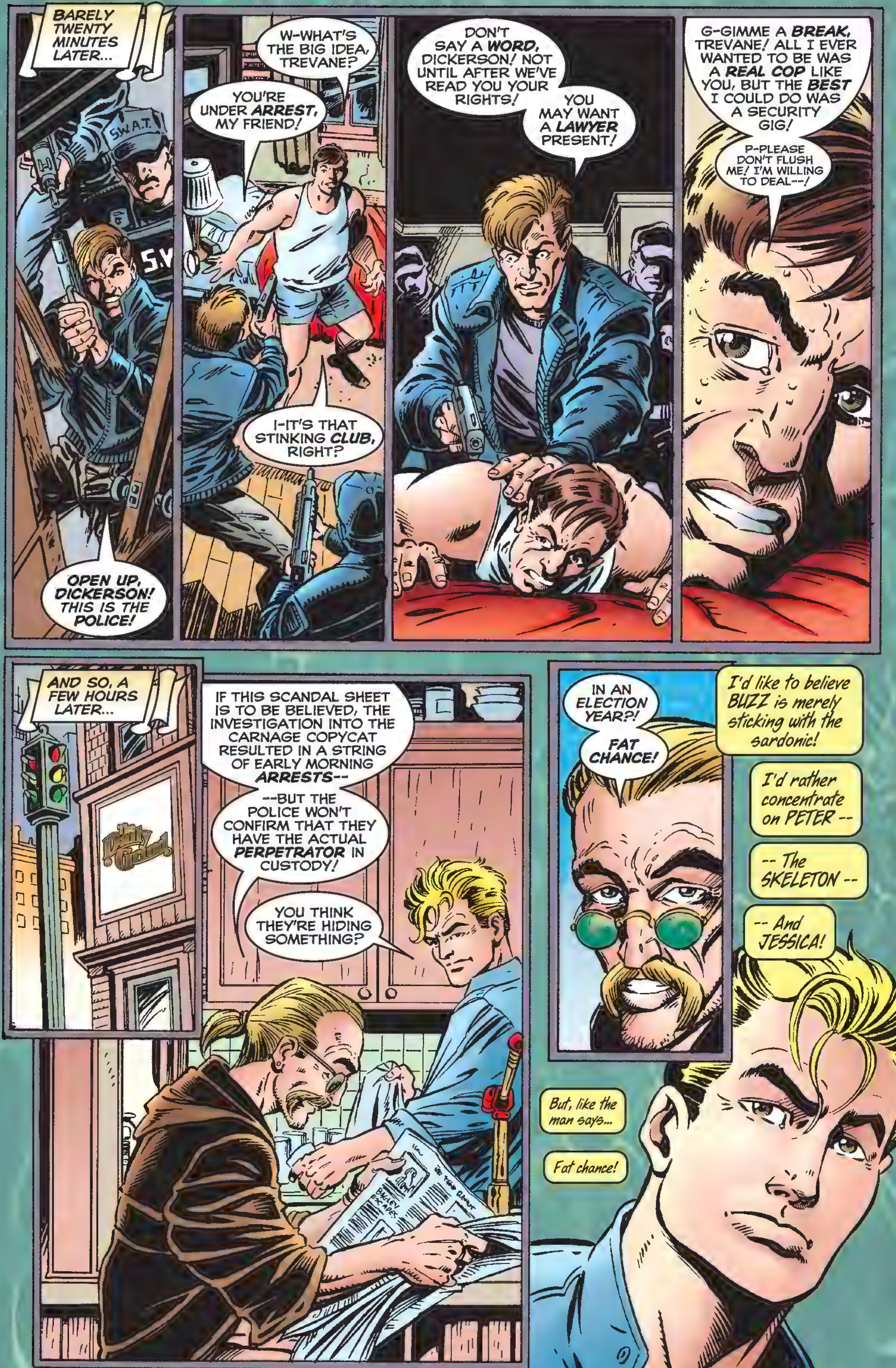

I figure this place for some kind of UNDERGROUND CLUB --
-- but it proves to be far more UNDERGROUND --
-- than I ever imagined!
Talk about SICK!
It is a veritable FANTASYLAND devoted to the most DEPRAVED elements of society!
After spending his working day with the genuine articles --
-- why on earth would a Ravencroft security guard come HERE?!
DICKERSON, MY MAN! YOU GOT ANY PRIMO MERCHANDISE?
YEAH, BUT THIS COULD BE THE LAST OF IT!
CARNAGE RULES!
TOWELS AND BANDAGES USED BY CARNAGE HIMSELF! EVERYTHING STAMPED WITH A RAVENCROFT LOGO!
MAN! THIS STUFF WOULD BE A FORTUNE IF IT WAS AUTOGRAPHED!
What a SLIMEBAG --!
He's selling MEMORABILIA!

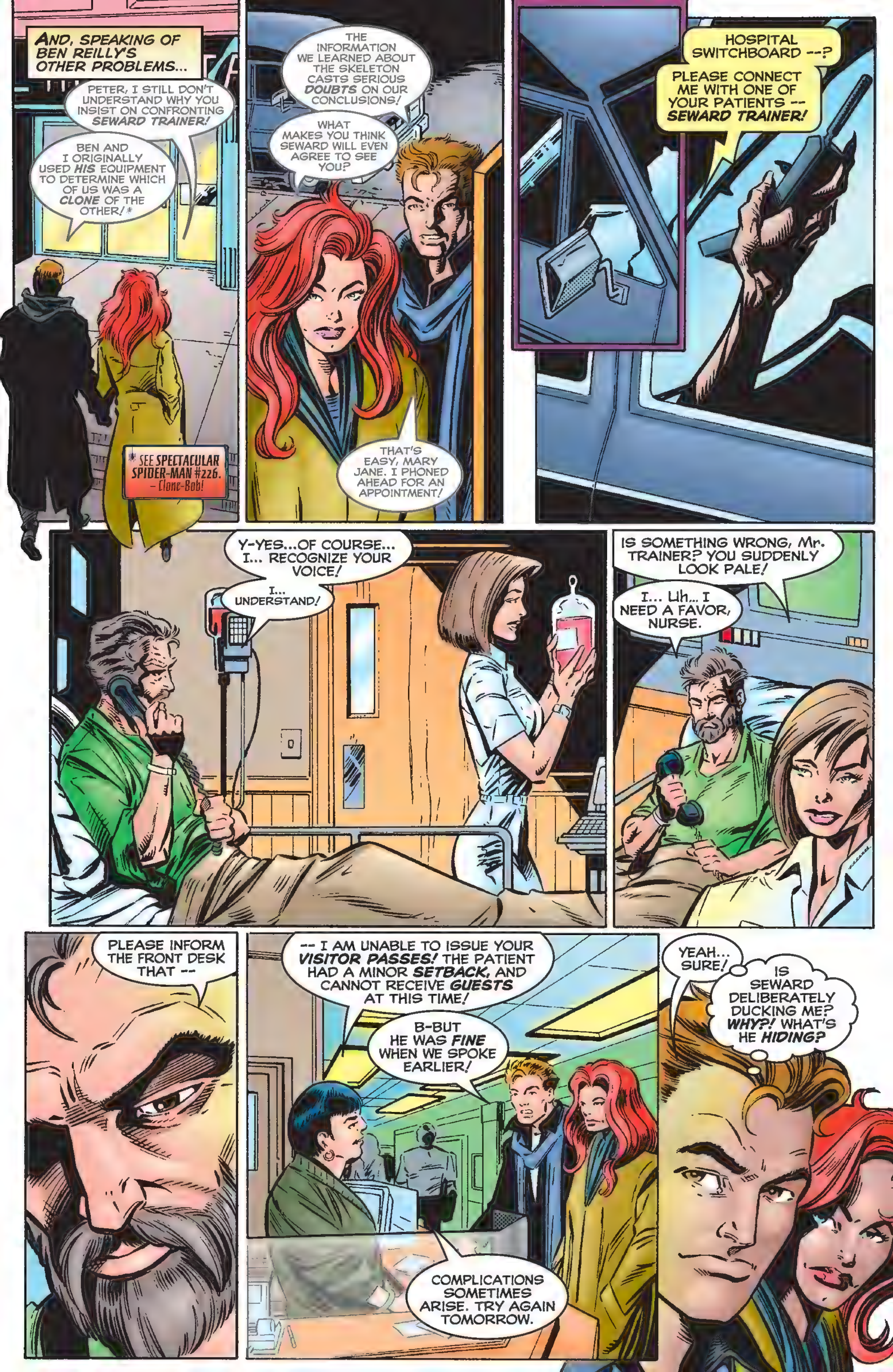

I know there's a big market for personal mementos of SPORTS FIGURES and MOVIE STARS --
-- But SUPER-VILLAINS?!
With a minimum of haggling, my quarry concludes his business, and makes tracks...
I'm still debating the merits of nailing the creep --
-- When my attention is suddenly riveted by a surprise GATE-CRASHER!
GOOD EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! YOU'RE ABOUT TO EXPERIENCE A ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY!
WE'RE ALL GONNA PARTY CARNAGE-STYLE!
COOL OUTFIT!
LOOVE THE CLAWS, MAN!
ACTUALLY THEY'RE A BIT TOO REALISTIC FOR MY TASTES!
Whoever is wearing that fright suit... it's definitely NOT KASADY!
But this is no simple CARNAGE WANNABE!
He's packing plenty of RAW POWER!
More than enough to kick my spider-sense into OVERDRIVE!

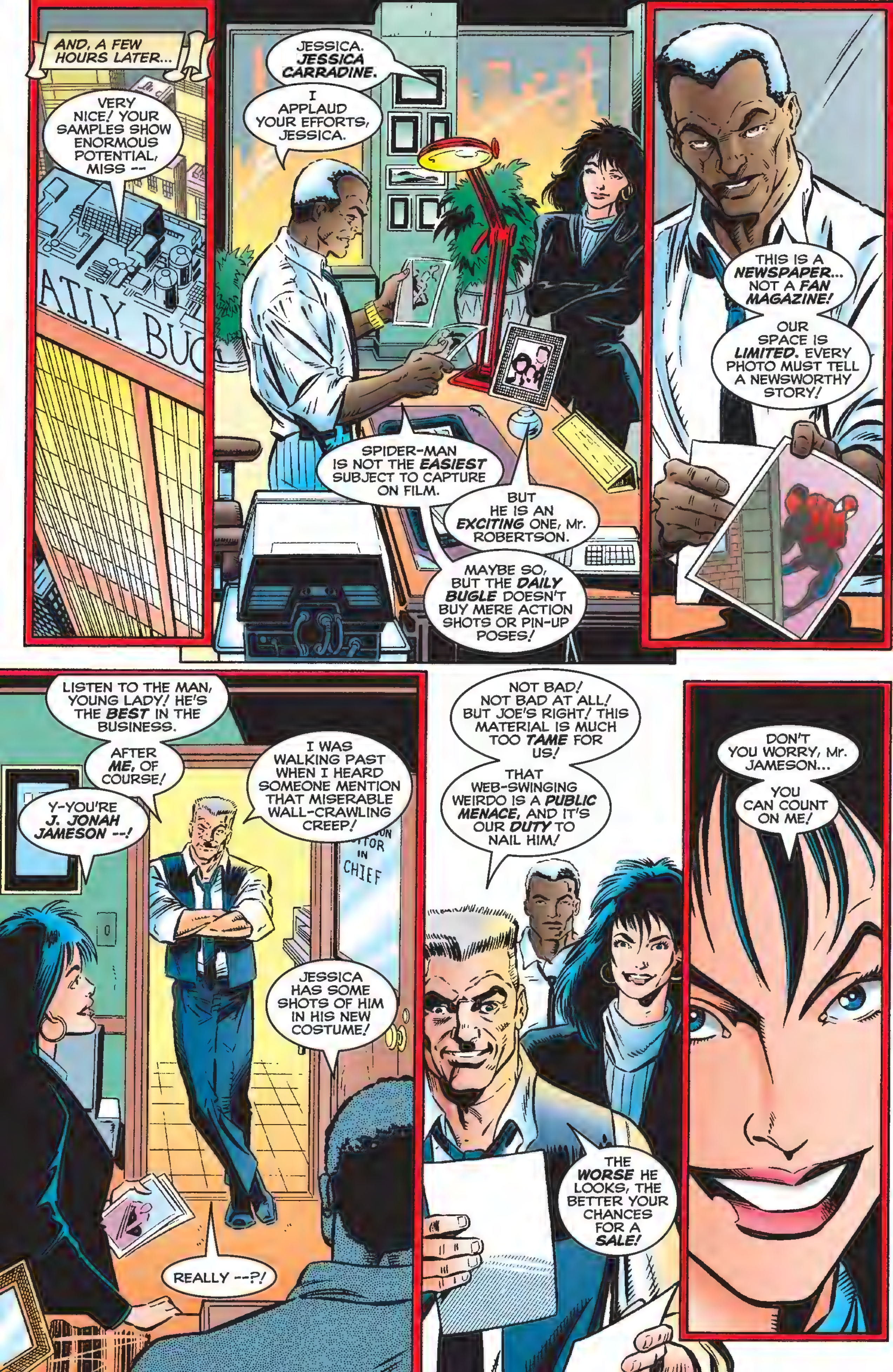

OOOO!
LOOKEE WHO'S HERE -- SPIDER-MAN!
Oh, MAN! I...I THINK THIS IS REAL!
This joker is TALLER -- BULKIER -- than Kasady!
He COULD be the man I followed here!
Y-YOU THINK--?!
He was only out of my sight for a minute, but --
HIT THE EXITS, GANG!
AM I BORING YOU?
YOU SEEM A MITE DISTRACTED!
NOOO PROBLEM, PALLY!
I'LL JUST KICK UP THE PACE!
SAVE YOURSELF THE EXTRA EFFORT!
IT'S YOUR PERSONALITY -- NOT YOUR FIGHTING TECHNIQUES -- THAT PUTS ME TO SLEEP!
GOOD LORD--! Only a genuine ALIEN SYMBIOTE could do a stunt like that! So much for this guy being a COPYCAT!

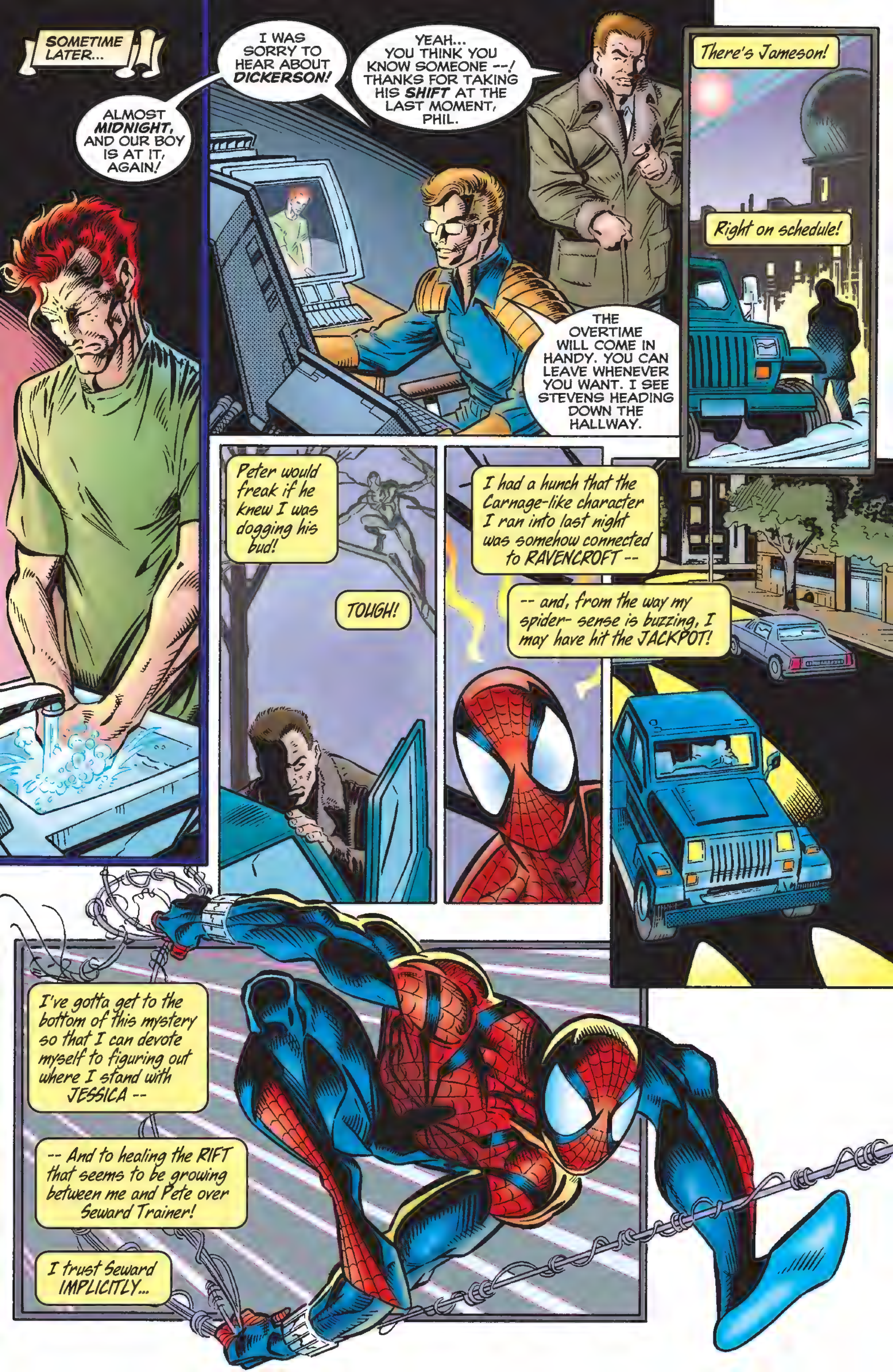

Got to pull out ALL the stops!
SPWOK
This wackjob could be as deadly as VENOM or the real CARNAGE!
For a club devoted to the DARKER SIDE of the spandex set it sure cleared out FAST when one of 'em shows up IN THE FLESH!
KWAKKK
Like many other things in life, psychos have more appeal in THEORY than in PRACTICE!
I CONGRATULATE YOU, LITTLE MAN. I ALMOST FELT THAT PUNCH.
YOU MAY PROVE AN AMUSING DIVERSION AFTER ALL!
PTOCK
UNFORTUNATELY, THIS PARTICULAR EVENING GROWS LATE --
-- AND I MUST RUN!
Oh, NO! He shattered that support beam, and --
QUA-DOOM

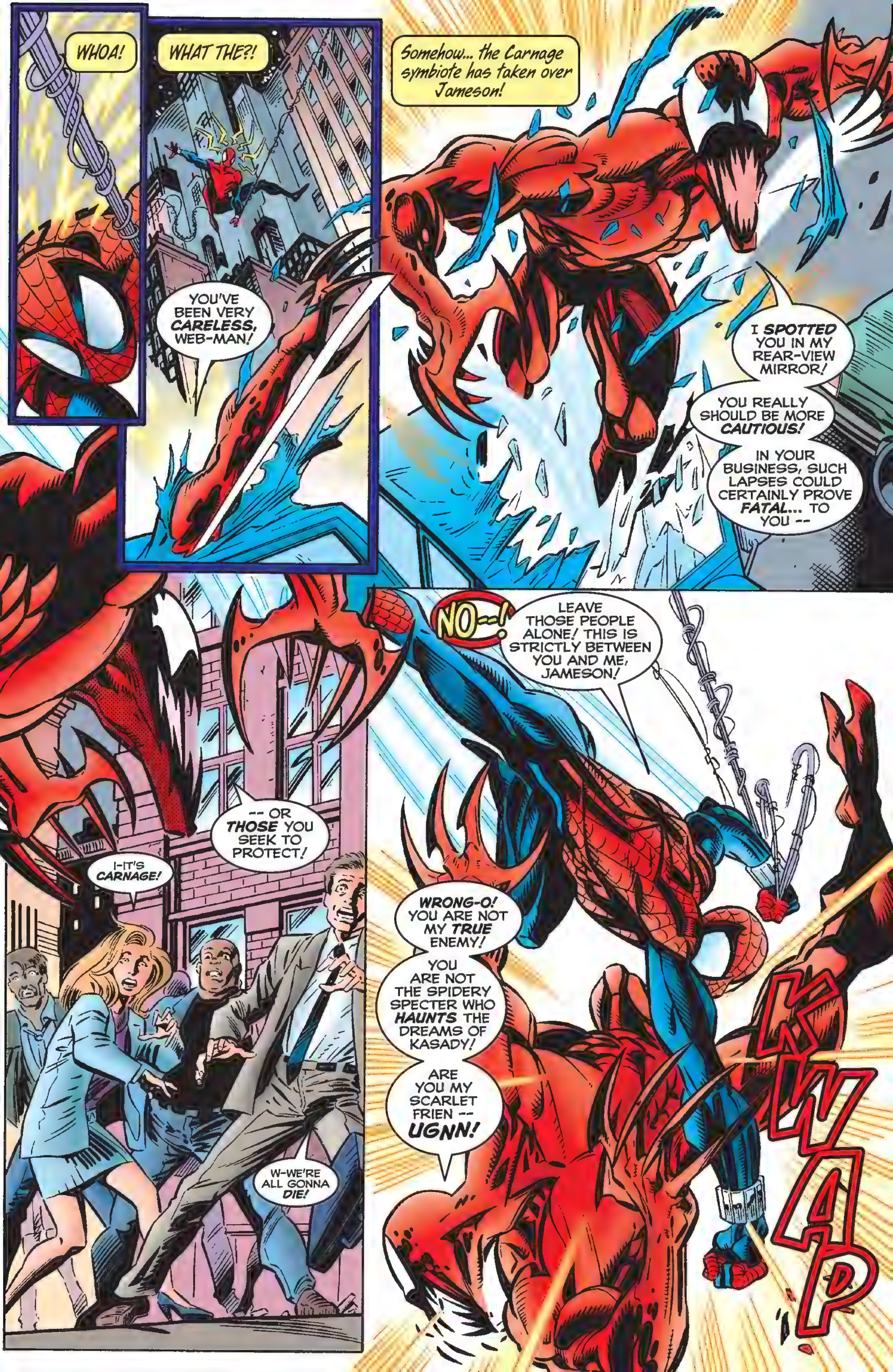

Swell!
Mr. Maniac VANISHED during the confusion!
Should I attempt to give CHASE --
-- or search the debris for any STRAGGLERS who may have stayed behind to watch the action?
Uh... A LITTLE HELP OVER HERE!
That voice! it sounds like --
DETECTIVE CONNOR TREVANE!
I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT YOUR TASTES RAN MORE TO CLASSIC ROCK THAN ALTERNATIVE CLUBS!
YUK! YUK!
JUST SO THERE'S NO MISUNDERSTANDING... I CAME HERE TO TAG DICKERSON!
DICKERSON --?
A SECURITY GUARD AT RAVENCROFT WHO'S BEEN TRAFFICKING IN STOLEN SOUVENIRS!
I INTENDED TO PRESSURE HIM IN CASE HE KNOWS MORE THAN HE'S TELLING ABOUT THE CARNAGE COPYCAT!
YOU'D BETTER SCOOT BEFORE MY BACK-UP ARRIVES!
SOME EAGER BEAVER MAY WANT TO QUESTION YOU ABOUT THAT SKELETON THAT IS ALLEGEDLY MISSING FROM THE MORGUE!
Uh... THANKS!
IT'S THE LEAST I CAN DO...
I STILL OWE YOU... THAT'S IF YOU'RE THE SAME SPIDER-MAN WHO SAVED MY SON A FEW MONTHS BACK!
THE COSTUME MAY BE NEW, BUT I'M STILL THE ORIGINAL WALL-CRAWLER!
Okay, so maybe I'm fudging the truth. Considering the circumstances, I doubt PETE will mind if I claim his save!

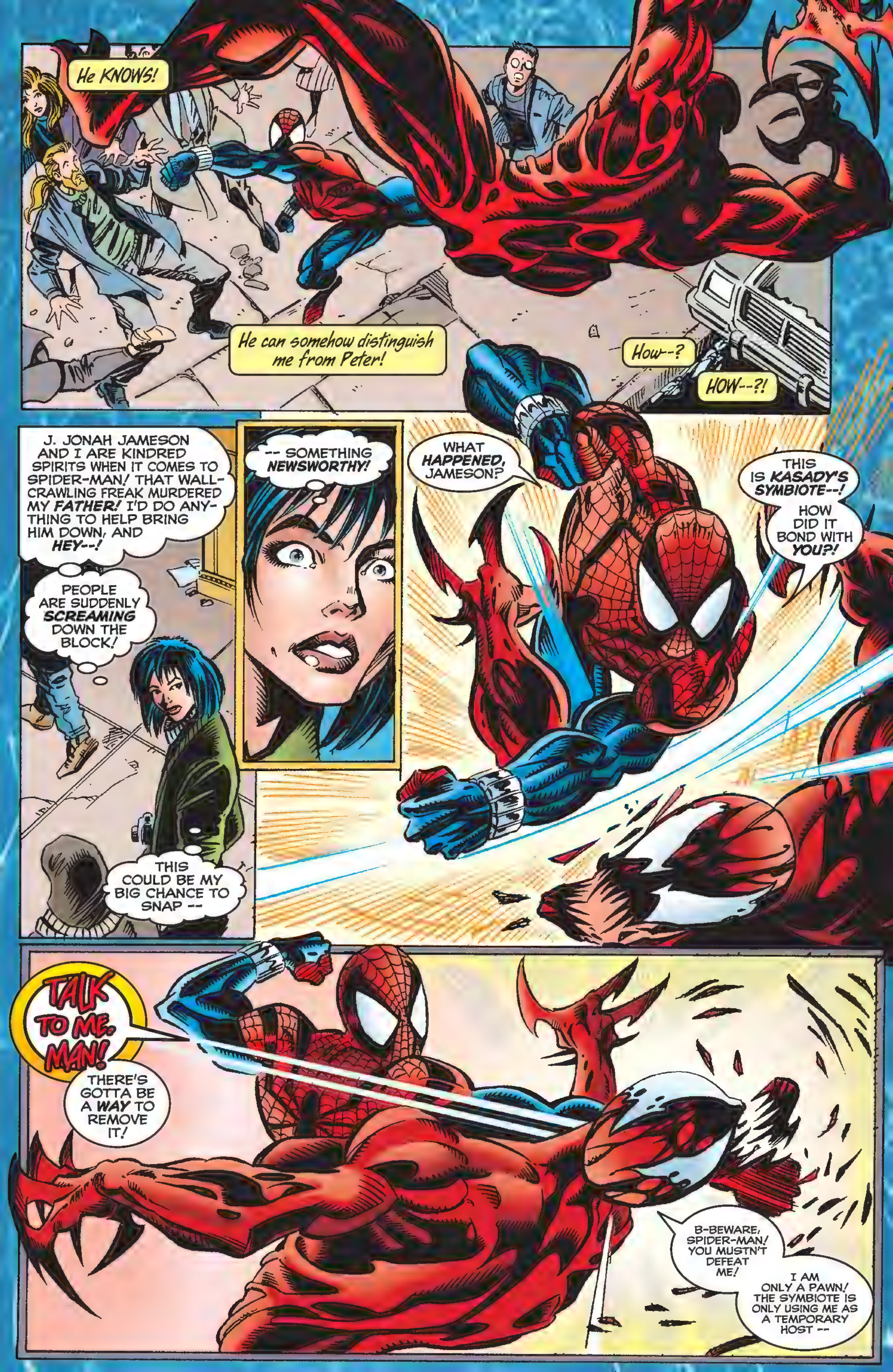

BARELY TWENTY MINUTES LATER...
OPEN UP, DICKERSON! THIS IS THE POLICE!
S.W.A.T.
W-WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA, TREVANE?
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST, MY FRIEND!
I-IT'S THAT STINKING CLUB, RIGHT?
DON'T SAY A WORD, DICKERSON! NOT UNTIL AFTER WE'VE READ YOU YOUR RIGHTS!
YOU MAY WANT A LAWYER PRESENT!
G-GIMME A BREAK, TREVANE! ALL I EVER WANTED TO BE WAS A REAL COP LIKE YOU, BUT THE BEST I COULD DO WAS A SECURITY GIG!
P-PLEASE DON'T FLUSH ME! I'M WILLING TO DEAL--!
AND SO, A FEW HOURS LATER...
The Daily Globe
IF THIS SCANDAL SHEET IS TO BE BELIEVED, THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE CARNAGE COPYCAT RESULTED IN A STRING OF EARLY MORNING ARRESTS--
--BUT THE POLICE WON'T CONFIRM THAT THEY HAVE THE ACTUAL PERPETRATOR IN CUSTODY!
YOU THINK THEY'RE HIDING SOMETHING?
BAILEY ESCAPES
IN AN ELECTION YEAR?!
FAT CHANCE!
I'd like to believe BUZZ is merely sticking with the sardonic!
I'd rather concentrate on PETER --
-- The SKELETON --
-- And JESSICA!
But, like the man says...
Fat chance!

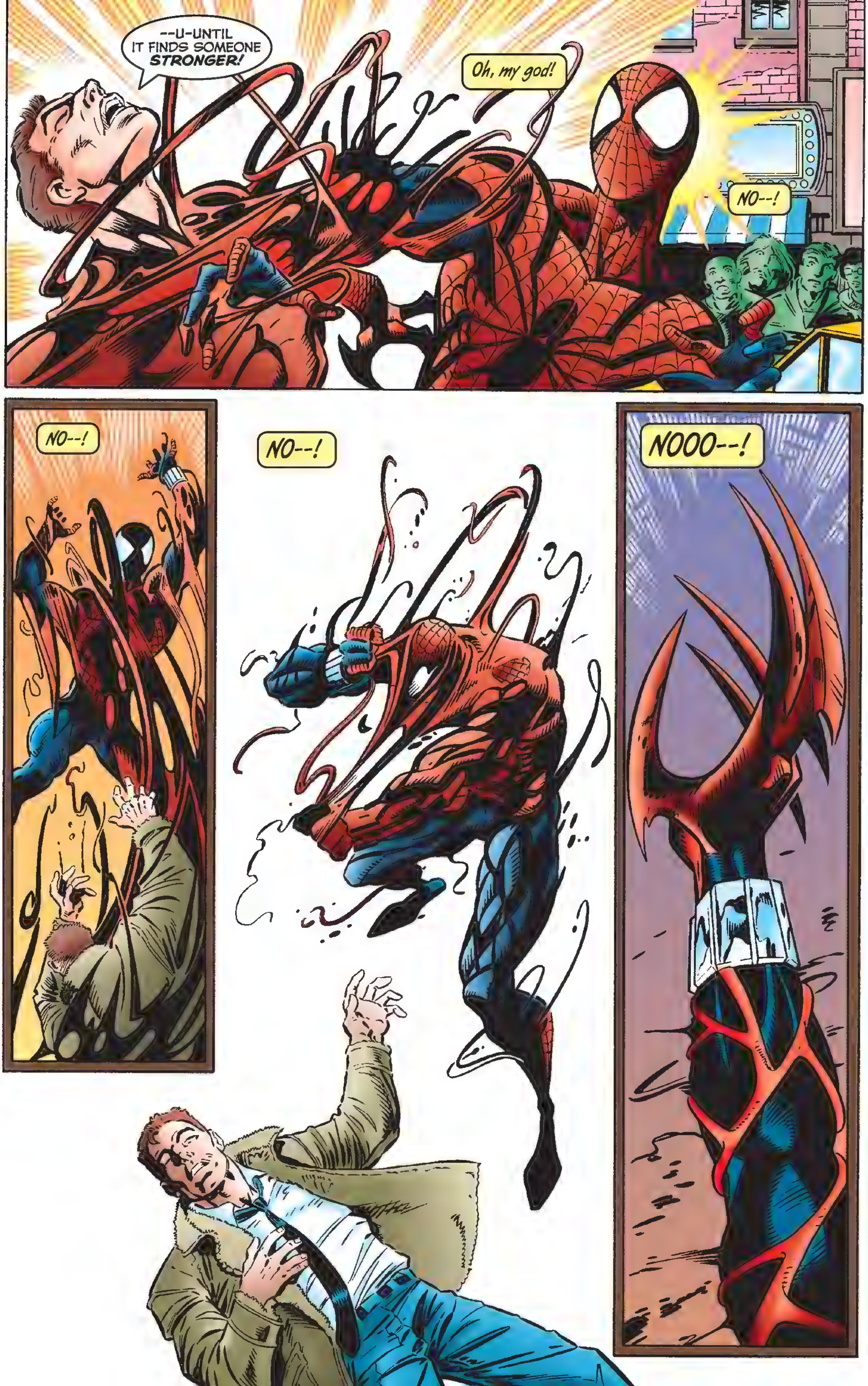

AND, SPEAKING OF BEN REILLY'S OTHER PROBLEMS...
PETER, I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU INSIST ON CONFRONTING SEWARD TRAINER!
BEN AND I ORIGINALLY USED HIS EQUIPMENT TO DETERMINE WHICH OF US WAS A CLONE OF THE OTHER!*
*SEE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #226. – Clone-Bob!
THE INFORMATION WE LEARNED ABOUT THE SKELETON CASTS SERIOUS DOUBTS ON OUR CONCLUSIONS!
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SEWARD WILL EVEN AGREE TO SEE YOU?
THAT'S EASY, MARY JANE. I PHONED AHEAD FOR AN APPOINTMENT!
HOSPITAL SWITCHBOARD --?
PLEASE CONNECT ME WITH ONE OF YOUR PATIENTS -- SEWARD TRAINER!
Y-YES...OF COURSE... I... RECOGNIZE YOUR VOICE!
I... UNDERSTAND!
IS SOMETHING WRONG, Mr. TRAINER? YOU SUDDENLY LOOK PALE!
I... Uh... I NEED A FAVOR, NURSE.
PLEASE INFORM THE FRONT DESK THAT --
-- I AM UNABLE TO ISSUE YOUR VISITOR PASSES! THE PATIENT HAD A MINOR SETBACK, AND CANNOT RECEIVE GUESTS AT THIS TIME!
B-BUT HE WAS FINE WHEN WE SPOKE EARLIER!
COMPLICATIONS SOMETIMES ARISE. TRY AGAIN TOMORROW.
YEAH... SURE!
IS SEWARD DELIBERATELY DUCKING ME? WHY?! WHAT'S HE HIDING?

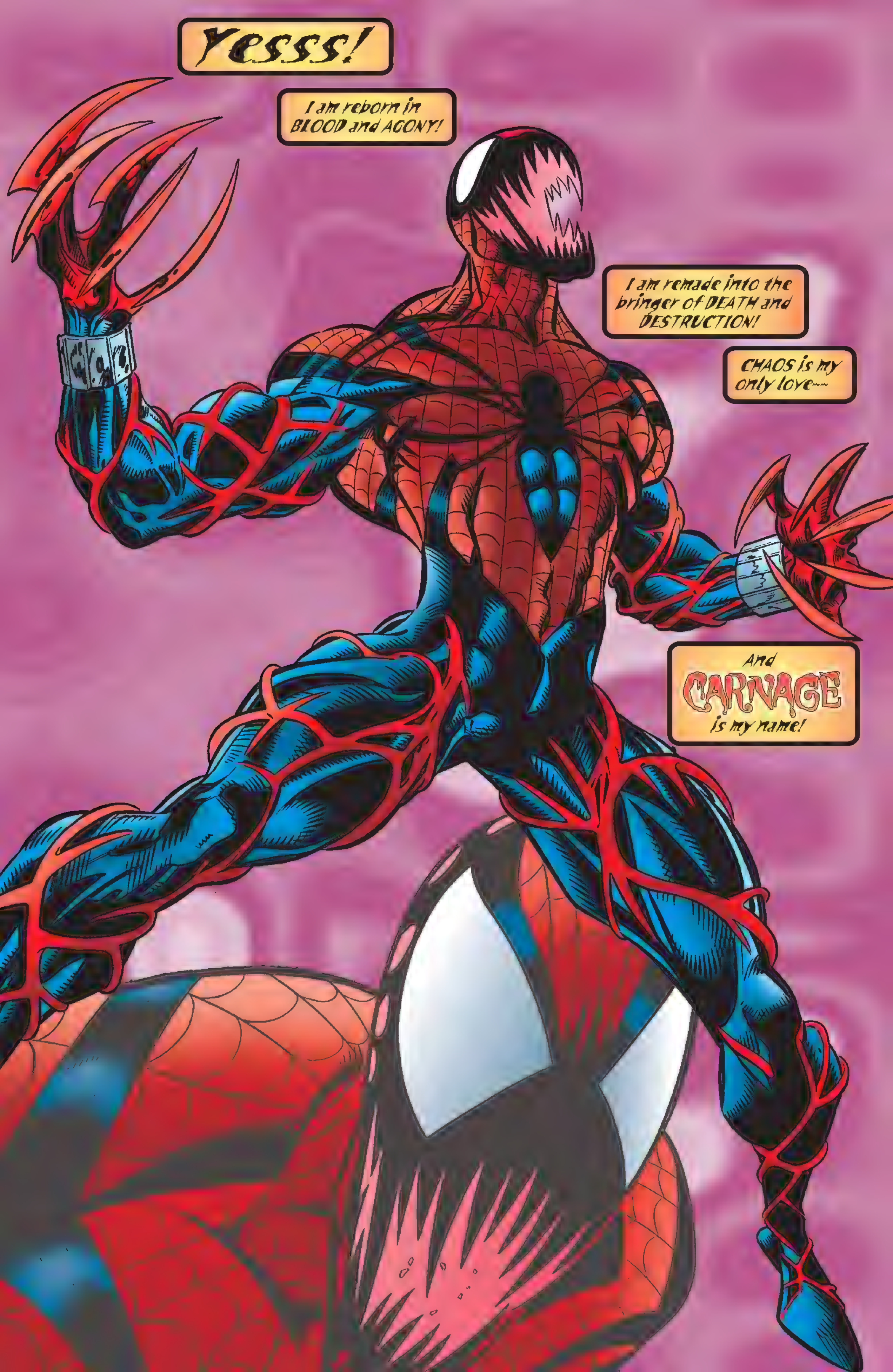

AND, A FEW HOURS LATER...
VERY NICE! YOUR SAMPLES SHOW ENORMOUS POTENTIAL, MISS --
AILY BUC
JESSICA. ***JESSICA CARRADINE.***
I APPLAUD YOUR EFFORTS, JESSICA.
SPIDER-MAN IS NOT THE ***EASIEST*** SUBJECT TO CAPTURE ON FILM.
BUT HE IS AN ***EXCITING*** ONE, Mr. ROBERTSON.
MAYBE SO, BUT THE ***DAILY BUGLE*** DOESN'T BUY MERE ACTION SHOTS OR PIN-UP POSES!
THIS IS A ***NEWSPAPER...*** NOT A ***FAN MAGAZINE!***
OUR SPACE IS ***LIMITED.*** EVERY PHOTO MUST TELL A NEWSWORTHY STORY!
LISTEN TO THE MAN, YOUNG LADY! HE'S THE ***BEST*** IN THE BUSINESS.
AFTER ***ME,*** OF COURSE!
Y-YOU'RE ***J. JONAH JAMESON*** --!
I WAS WALKING PAST WHEN I HEARD SOMEONE MENTION THAT MISERABLE WALL-CRAWLING CREEP!
TOR IN CHIEF
JESSICA HAS SOME SHOTS OF HIM IN HIS NEW COSTUME!
REALLY --?!
NOT BAD! NOT BAD AT ALL! BUT JOE'S RIGHT! THIS MATERIAL IS MUCH TOO ***TAME*** FOR US!
THAT WEB-SWINGING WEIRDO IS A ***PUBLIC MENACE,*** AND IT'S OUR ***DUTY*** TO NAIL HIM!
THE ***WORSE*** HE LOOKS, THE BETTER YOUR CHANCES FOR A ***SALE!***
DON'T YOU WORRY, Mr. JAMESON...
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME!

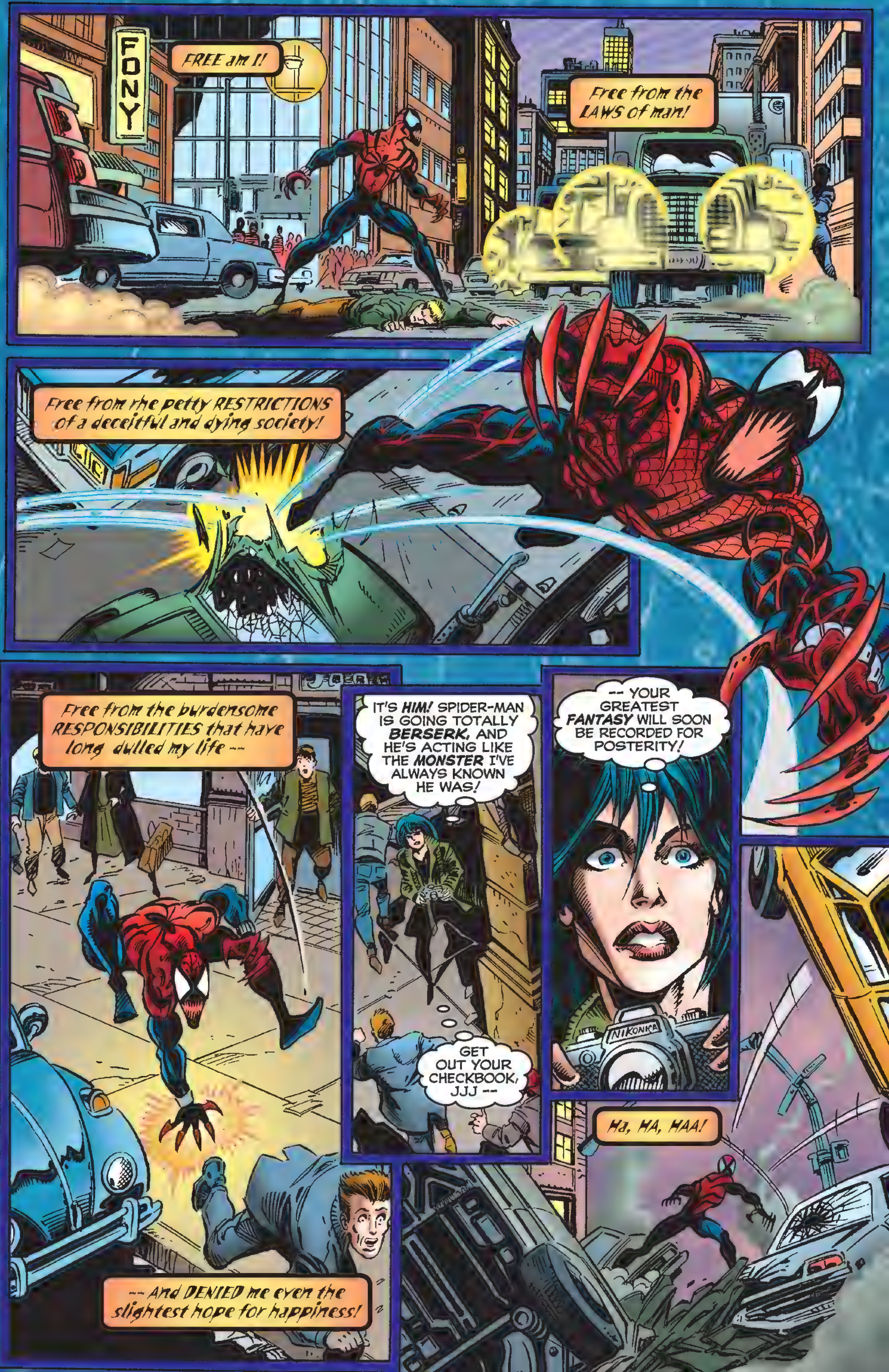

SOMETIME LATER...
ALMOST MIDNIGHT, AND OUR BOY IS AT IT, AGAIN!
I WAS SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT DICKERSON!
YEAH... YOU THINK YOU KNOW SOMEONE --! THANKS FOR TAKING HIS SHIFT AT THE LAST MOMENT, PHIL.
THE OVERTIME WILL COME IN HANDY. YOU CAN LEAVE WHENEVER YOU WANT. I SEE STEVENS HEADING DOWN THE HALLWAY.
There's Jameson!
Right on schedule!
Peter would freak if he knew I was dogging his bud!
TOUGH!
I had a hunch that the Carnage-like character I ran into last night was somehow connected to RAVENCROFT --
-- and, from the way my spider- sense is buzzing, I may have hit the JACKPOT!
I've gotta get to the bottom of this mystery so that I can devote myself to figuring out where I stand with JESSICA --
-- And to healing the RIFT that seems to be growing between me and Pete over Seward Trainer!
I trust Seward IMPLICITLY...

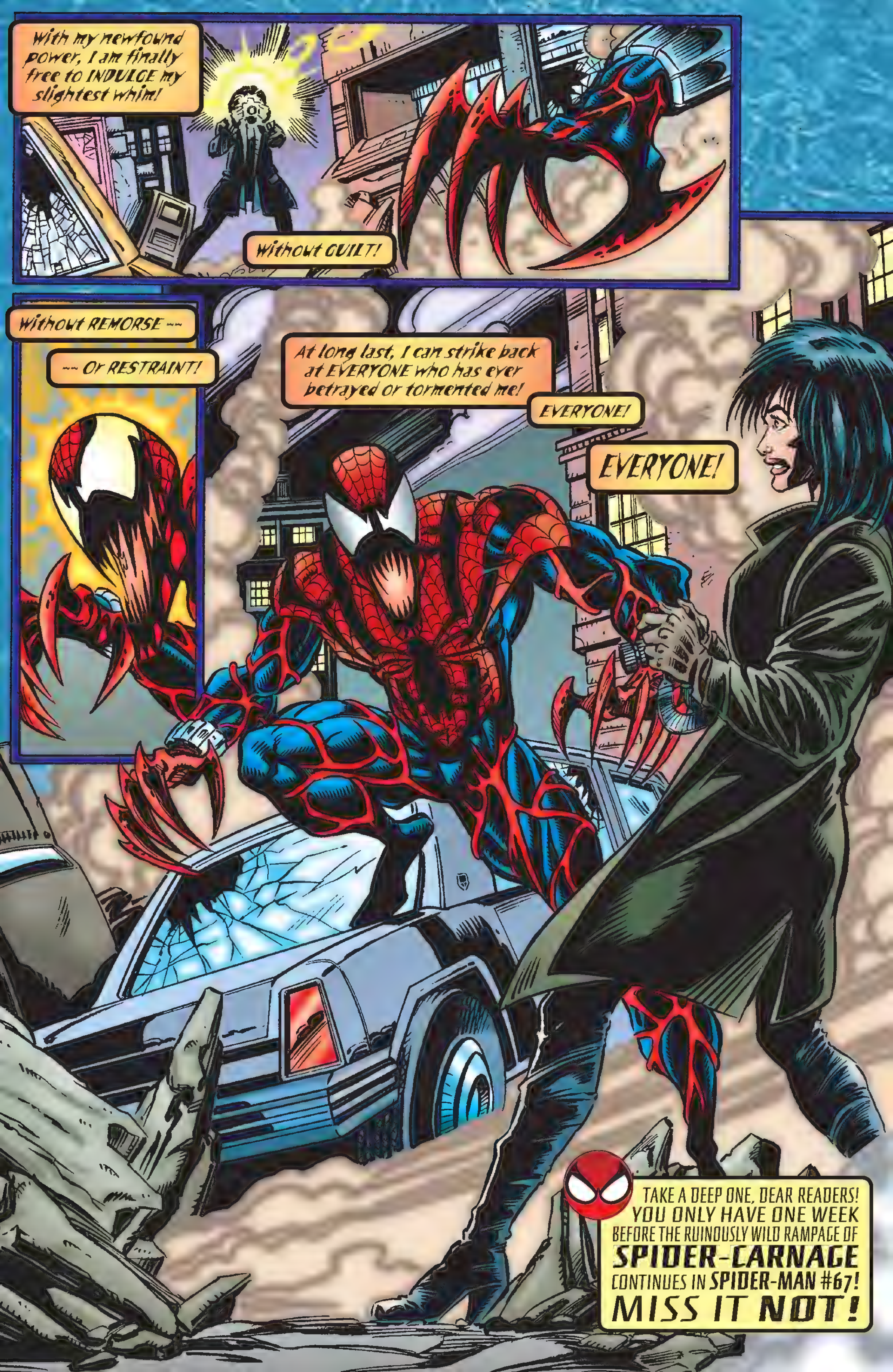

WHOA!
WHAT THE?!
Somehow... the Carnage symbiote has taken over Jameson!
YOU'VE BEEN VERY CARELESS, WEB-MAN!
I SPOTTED YOU IN MY REAR-VIEW MIRROR!
YOU REALLY SHOULD BE MORE CAUTIOUS!
IN YOUR BUSINESS, SUCH LAPSES COULD CERTAINLY PROVE FATAL... TO YOU --
-- OR THOSE YOU SEEK TO PROTECT!
I-IT'S CARNAGE!
W-WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!
NO--!
LEAVE THOSE PEOPLE ALONE! THIS IS STRICTLY BETWEEN YOU AND ME, JAMESON!
WRONG-O! YOU ARE NOT MY TRUE ENEMY!
YOU ARE NOT THE SPIDERY SPECTER WHO HAUNTS THE DREAMS OF KASADY!
ARE YOU MY SCARLET FRIEN -- UGNN!
KWAP


He KNOWS!
He can somehow distinguish me from Peter!
How--?
HOW--?!
J. JONAH JAMESON AND I ARE KINDRED SPIRITS WHEN IT COMES TO SPIDER-MAN! THAT WALL-CRAWLING FREAK MURDERED MY FATHER! I'D DO ANYTHING TO HELP BRING HIM DOWN, AND HEY--!
PEOPLE ARE SUDDENLY SCREAMING DOWN THE BLOCK!
THIS COULD BE MY BIG CHANCE TO SNAP --
-- SOMETHING NEWSWORTHY!
WHAT HAPPENED, JAMESON?
THIS IS KASADY'S SYMBIOTE--!
HOW DID IT BOND WITH YOU?!
TALK TO ME, MAN!
THERE'S GOTTA BE A WAY TO REMOVE IT!
B-BEWARE, SPIDER-MAN! YOU MUSTN'T DEFEAT ME!
I AM ONLY A PAWN! THE SYMBIOTE IS ONLY USING ME AS A TEMPORARY HOST --

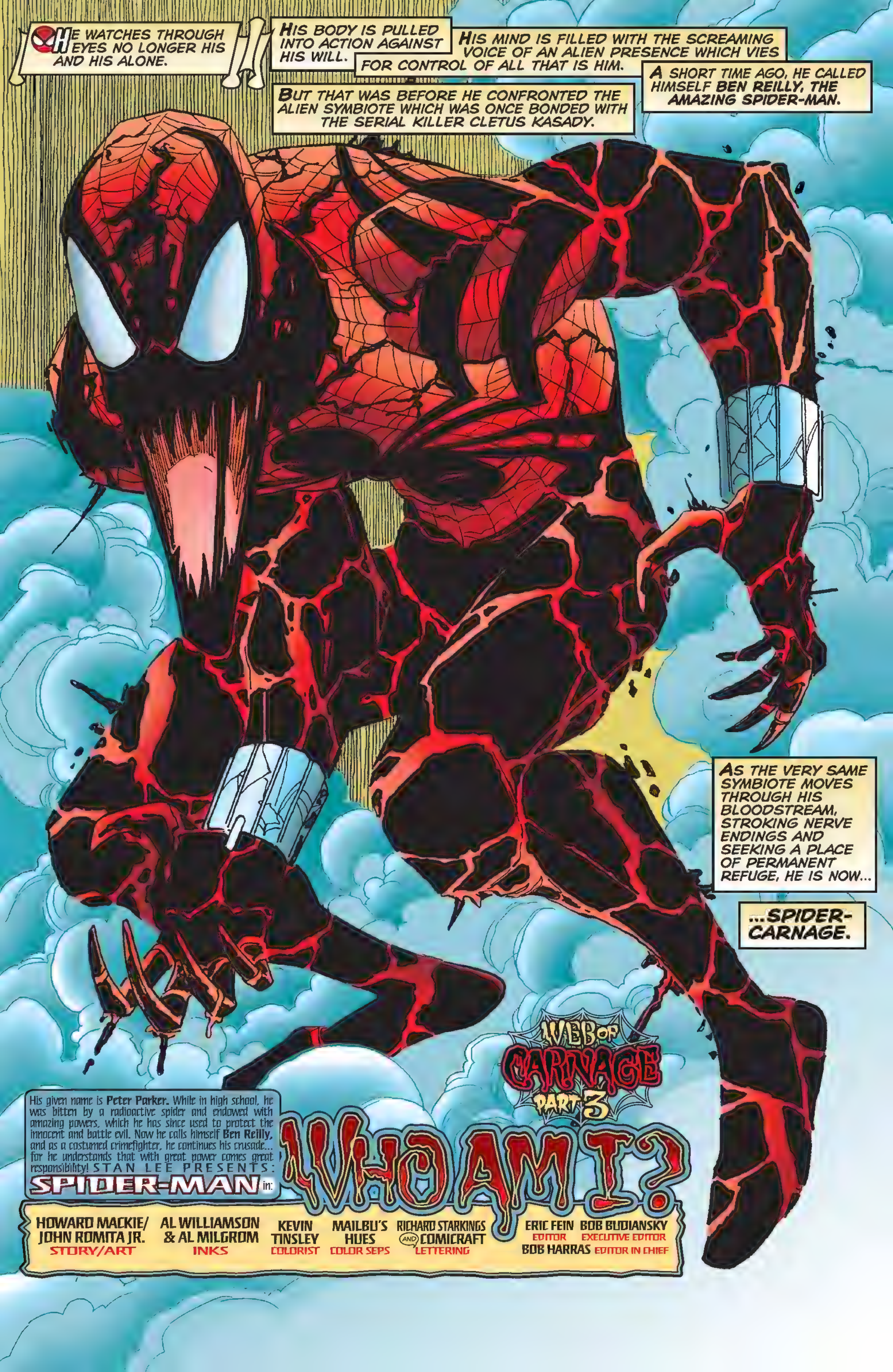

--U-UNTIL IT FINDS SOMEONE **STRONGER!**
Oh, my god!
NO--!
NO--!
NO--!
NOOO--!


Yesss!
I am reborn in BLOOD and AGONY!
I am remade into the bringer of DEATH and DESTRUCTION!
CHAOS is my only love--
And CARNAGE is my name!


FONY
FREE am I!
Free from the LAWS of man!
Free from the petty RESTRICTIONS of a deceitful and dying society!
Free from the burdensome RESPONSIBILITIES that have long dulled my life --
IT'S HIM! SPIDER-MAN IS GOING TOTALLY BERSERK, AND HE'S ACTING LIKE THE MONSTER I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN HE WAS!
-- YOUR GREATEST FANTASY WILL SOON BE RECORDED FOR POSTERITY!
GET OUT YOUR CHECKBOOK, JJJ --
NIKONKA
Ha, HA, HAA!
-- And DENIED me even the slightest hope for happiness!


With my newfound power, I am finally free to INDULGE my slightest whim!
Without GUILT!
Without REMORSE ---
-- Or RESTRAINT!
At long last, I can strike back at EVERYONE who has ever betrayed or tormented me!
EVERYONE!
EVERYONE!
TAKE A DEEP ONE, DEAR READERS! YOU ONLY HAVE ONE WEEK BEFORE THE RUINOUSLY WILD RAMPAGE OF SPIDER-CARNAGE CONTINUES IN SPIDER-MAN #67! MISS IT NOT!

SPIDER-MAN
APR • 67
MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN GROUP
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
JRJR + AW
WEB OF CARNAGE PART 3 OF 4


HE WATCHES THROUGH EYES NO LONGER HIS AND HIS ALONE.
HIS BODY IS PULLED INTO ACTION AGAINST HIS WILL.
HIS MIND IS FILLED WITH THE SCREAMING VOICE OF AN ALIEN PRESENCE WHICH VIES FOR CONTROL OF ALL THAT IS HIM.
A SHORT TIME AGO, HE CALLED HIMSELF BEN REILLY, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.
BUT THAT WAS BEFORE HE CONFRONTED THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE WHICH WAS ONCE BONDED WITH THE SERIAL KILLER CLETUS KASADY.
AS THE VERY SAME SYMBIOTE MOVES THROUGH HIS BLOODSTREAM, STROKING NERVE ENDINGS AND SEEKING A PLACE OF PERMANENT REFUGE, HE IS NOW...
...SPIDER-CARNAGE.

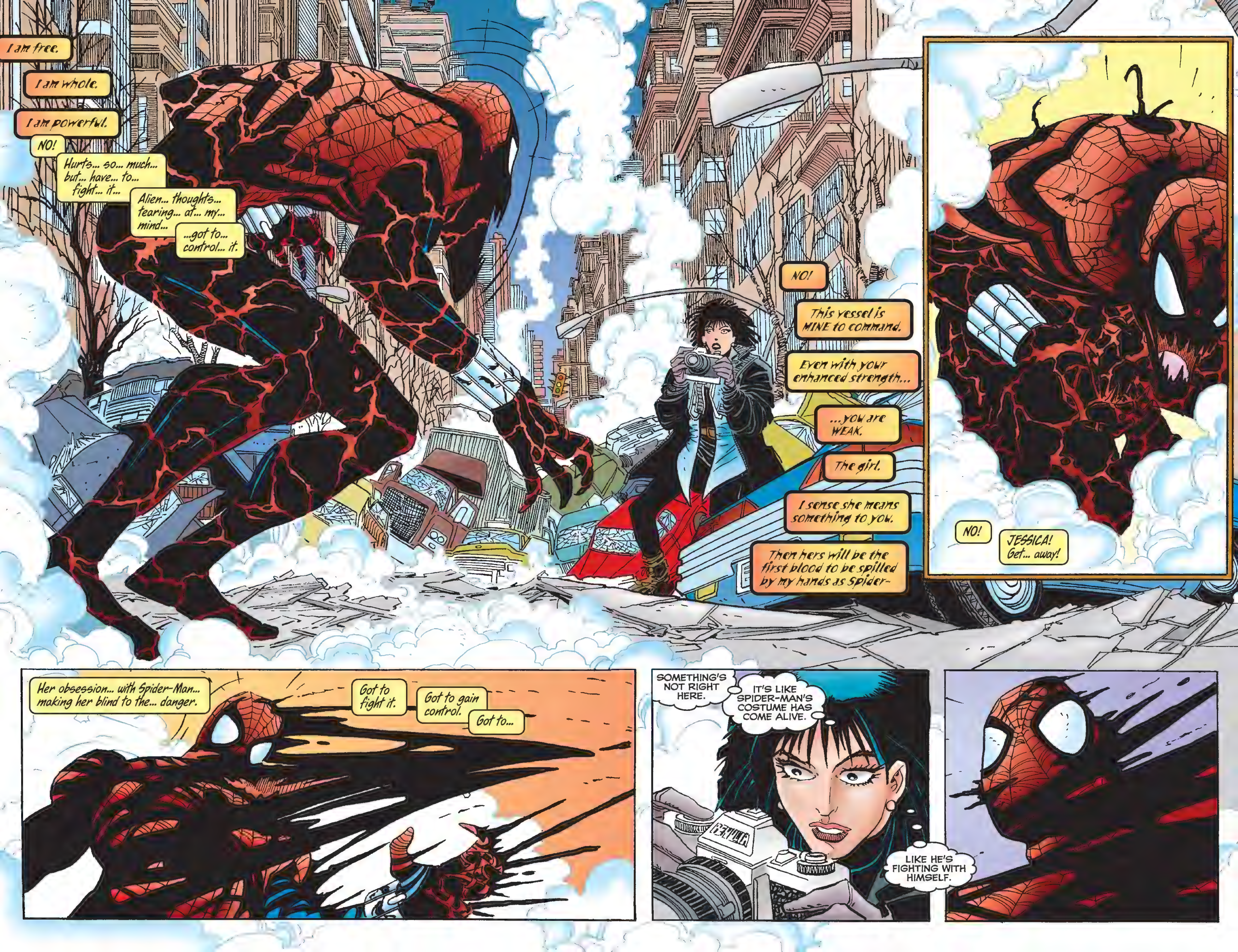
His given name is **Peter Parker.** While in high school, he was bitten by a radioactive spider and endowed with amazing powers, which he has since used to protect the innocent and battle evil. Now he calls himself **Ben Reilly,** and as a costumed crimefighter, he continues his crusade... for he understands that with great power comes great responsibility! STAN LEE PRESENTS:

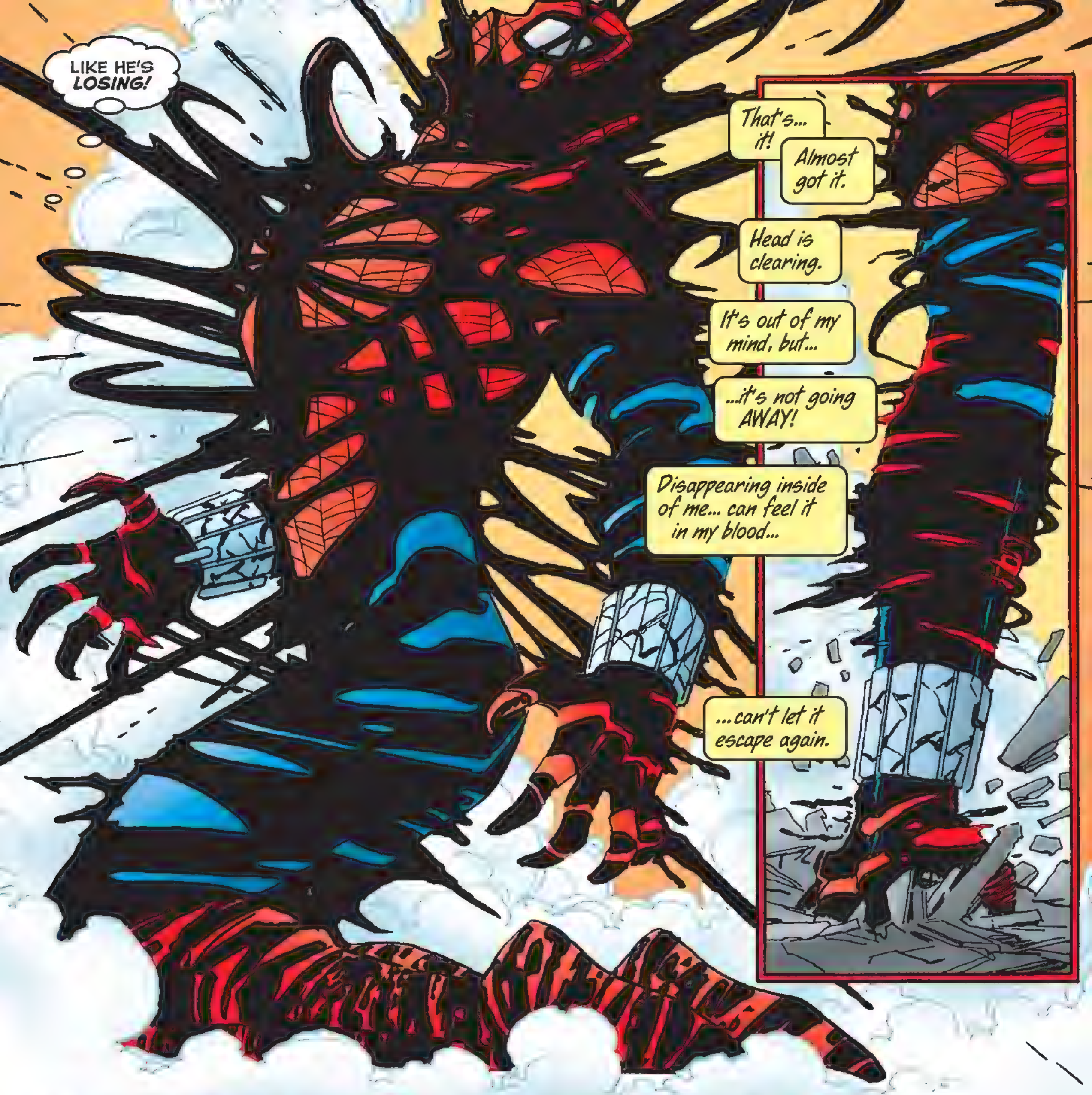
SPIDER-MAN in:

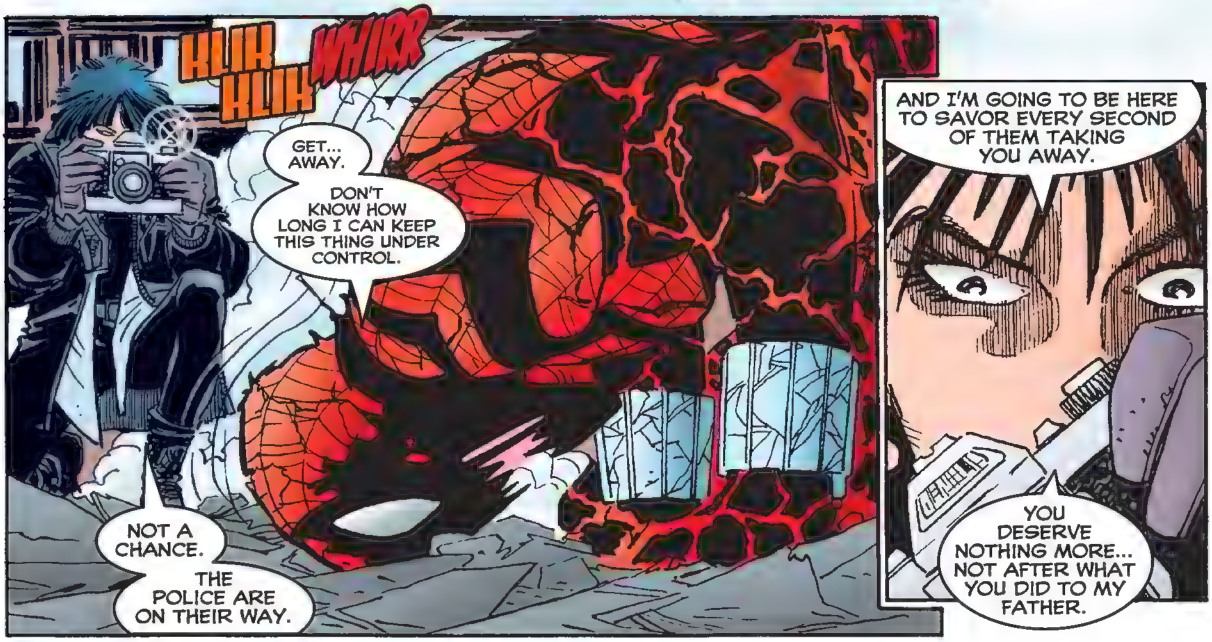
WEB OF CARNAGE PART 3

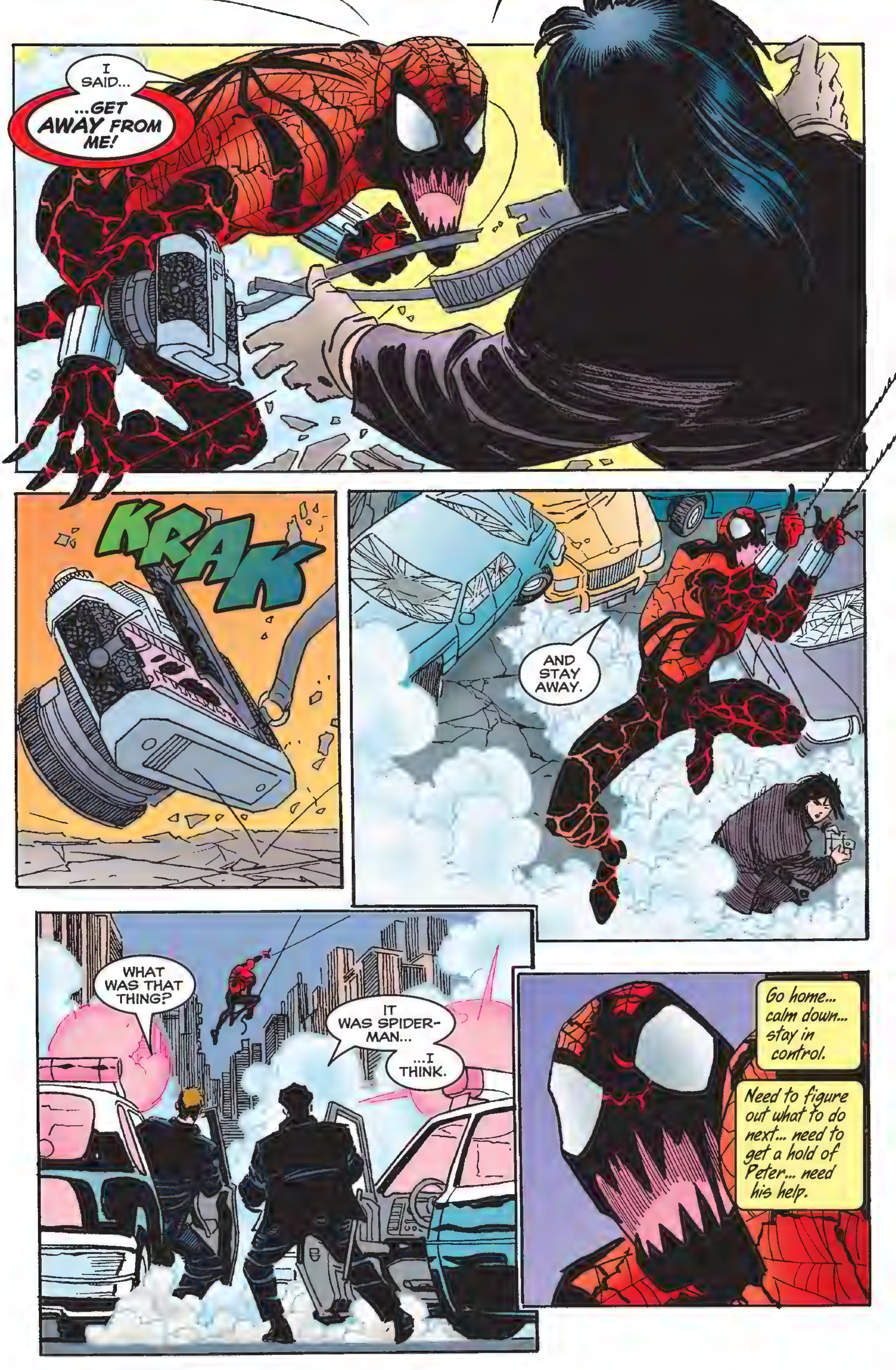
WHO AM I?

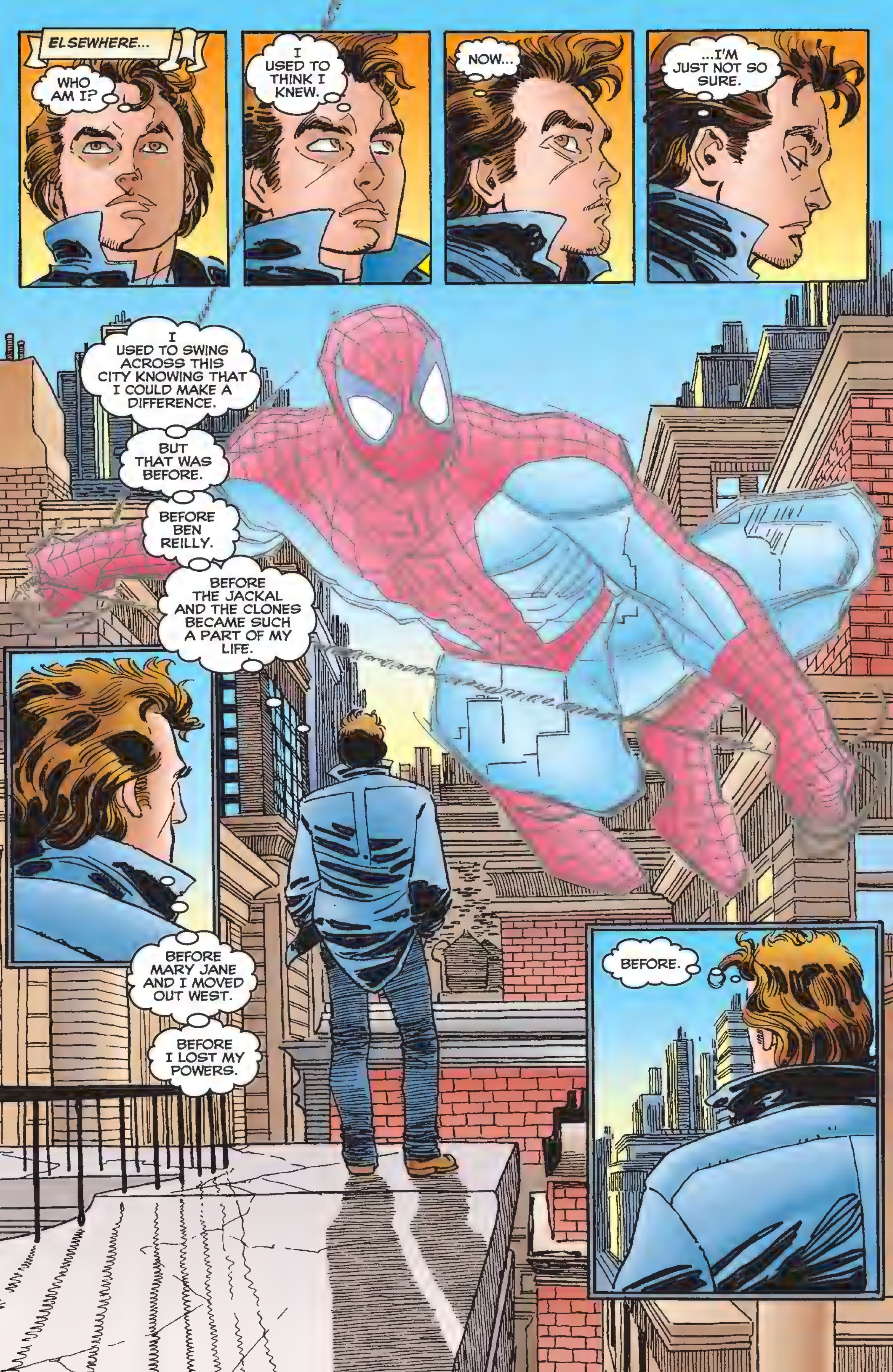
HOWARD MACKIE/ JOHN ROMITA JR. STORY/ART
AL WILLIAMSON & AL MILGROM INKS
KEVIN TINSLEY COLORIST
MAILBU'S HUES COLOR SEPS
RICHARD STARKINGS AND COMICRAFT LETTERING
ERIC FEIN EDITOR
BOB BUDIANSKY EXECUTIVE EDITOR
BOB HARRAS EDITOR IN CHIEF

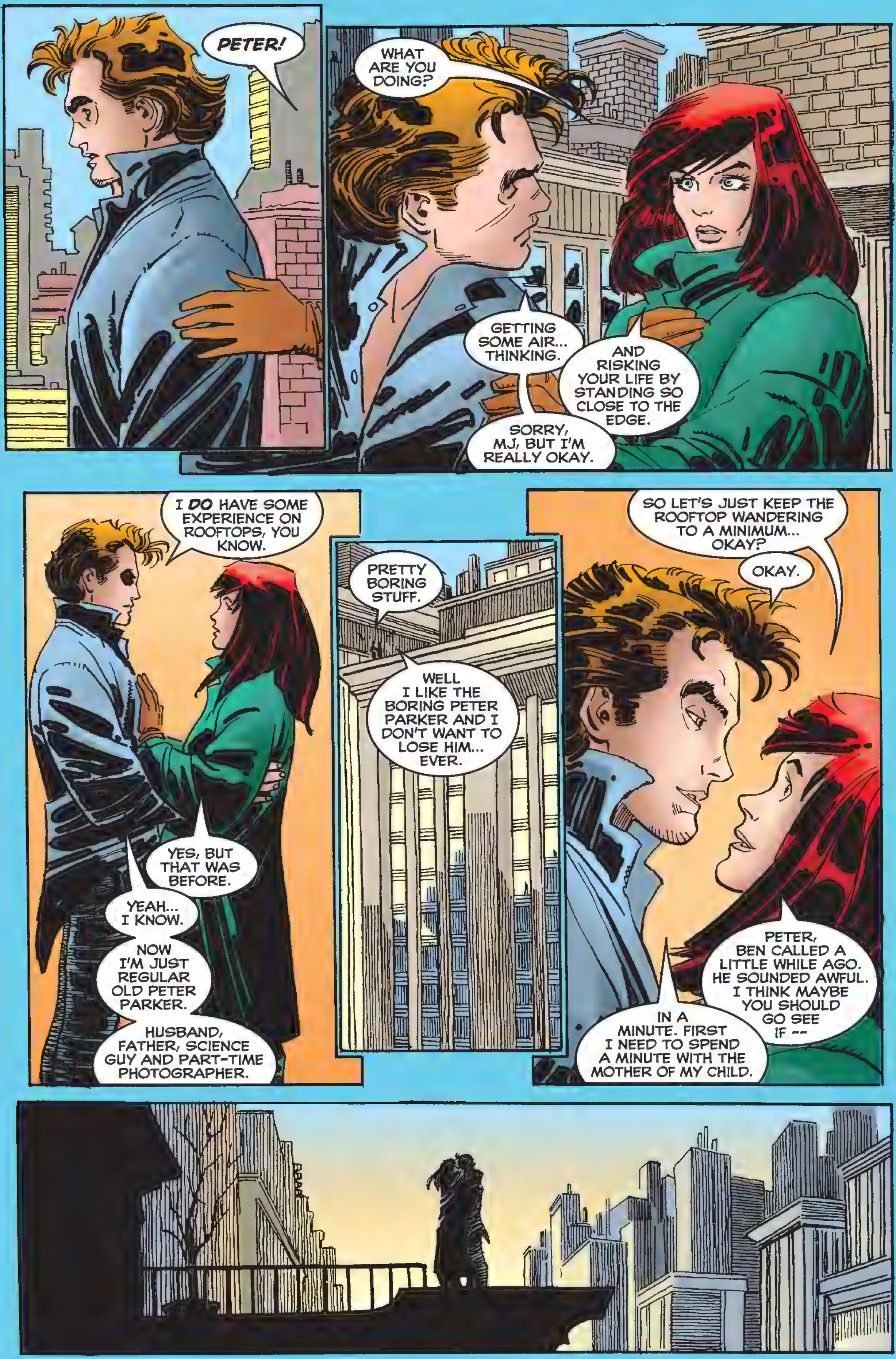

I am free.
I am whole.
I am powerful.
NO!
Hurts... so... much... but... have... to... fight... it...
Alien... thoughts... tearing... at... my... mind...
...got to... control... it.
NO!
This vessel is MINE to command.
Even with your enhanced strength...
...you are WEAK.
The girl.
I sense she means something to you.
Then hers will be the first blood to be spilled by my hands as Spider-
NO!
JESSICA! Get... away!
Her obsession... with Spider-Man... making her blind to the... danger.
Got to fight it.
Got to gain control.
Got to...
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT HERE.
IT'S LIKE SPIDER-MAN'S COSTUME HAS COME ALIVE.
LIKE HE'S FIGHTING WITH HIMSELF.

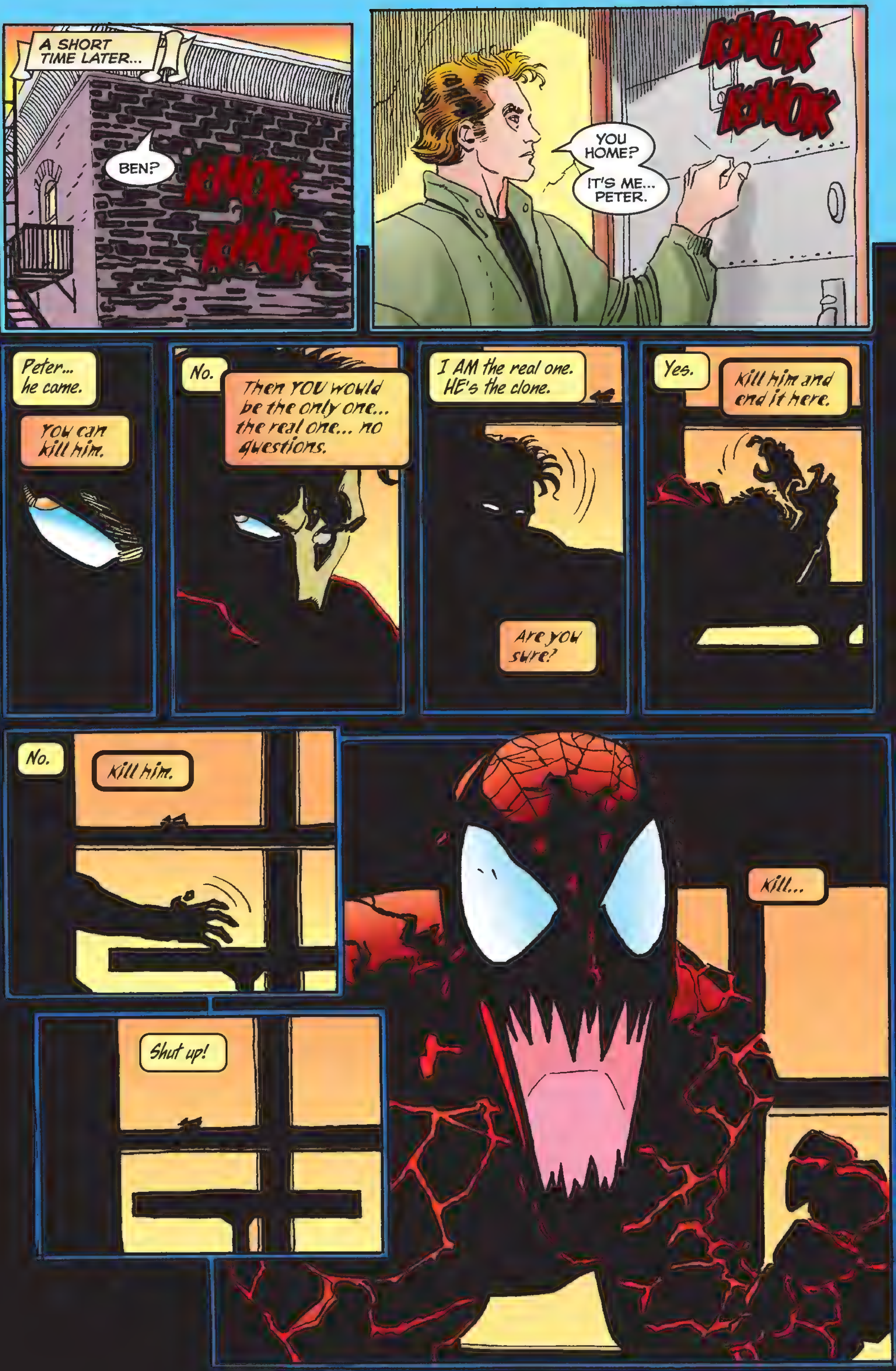

LIKE HE'S *LOSING!*
That's... it!
Almost got it.
Head is clearing.
It's out of my mind, but...
...it's not going AWAY!
Disappearing inside of me... can feel it in my blood...
...can't let it escape again.

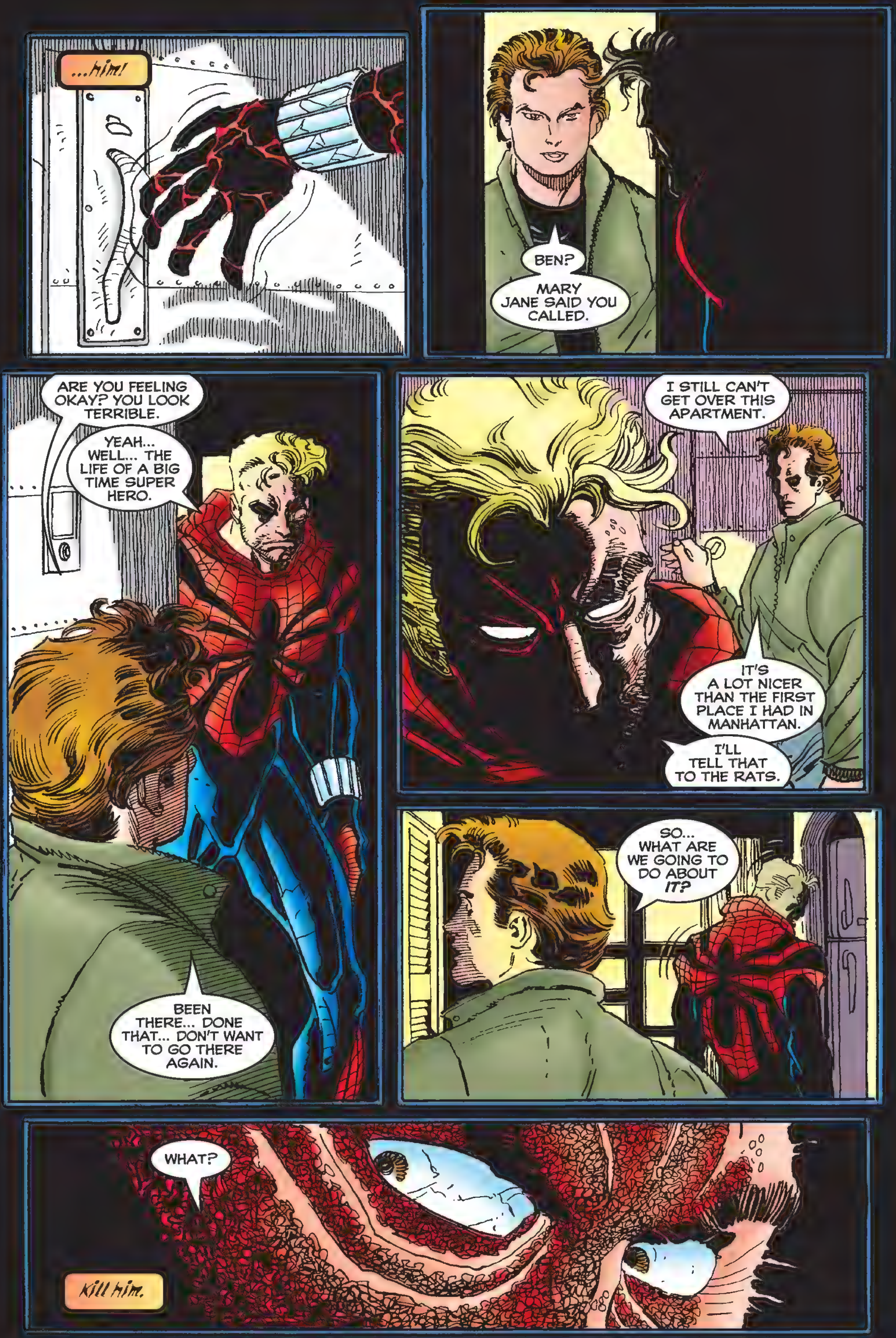

KLIK KLIK WHIRR
GET... AWAY.
DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I CAN KEEP THIS THING UNDER CONTROL.
NOT A CHANCE.
THE POLICE ARE ON THEIR WAY.
AND I'M GOING TO BE HERE TO SAVOR EVERY SECOND OF THEM TAKING YOU AWAY.
YOU DESERVE NOTHING MORE... NOT AFTER WHAT YOU DID TO MY FATHER.

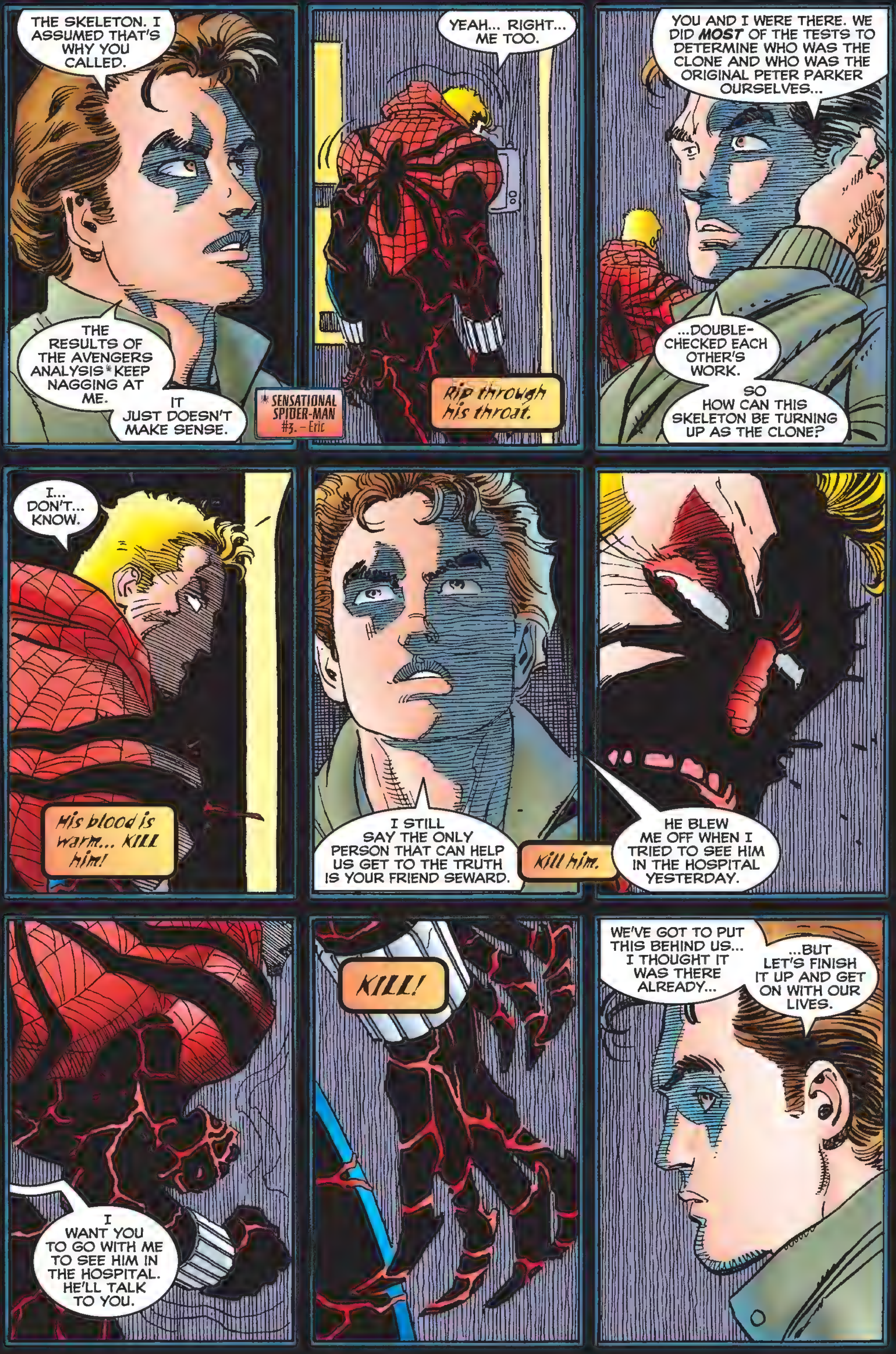

I SAID...
...GET AWAY FROM ME!
KRAK
AND STAY AWAY.
WHAT WAS THAT THING?
IT WAS SPIDER-MAN...
...I THINK.
Go home... calm down... stay in control.
Need to figure out what to do next... need to get a hold of Peter... need his help.

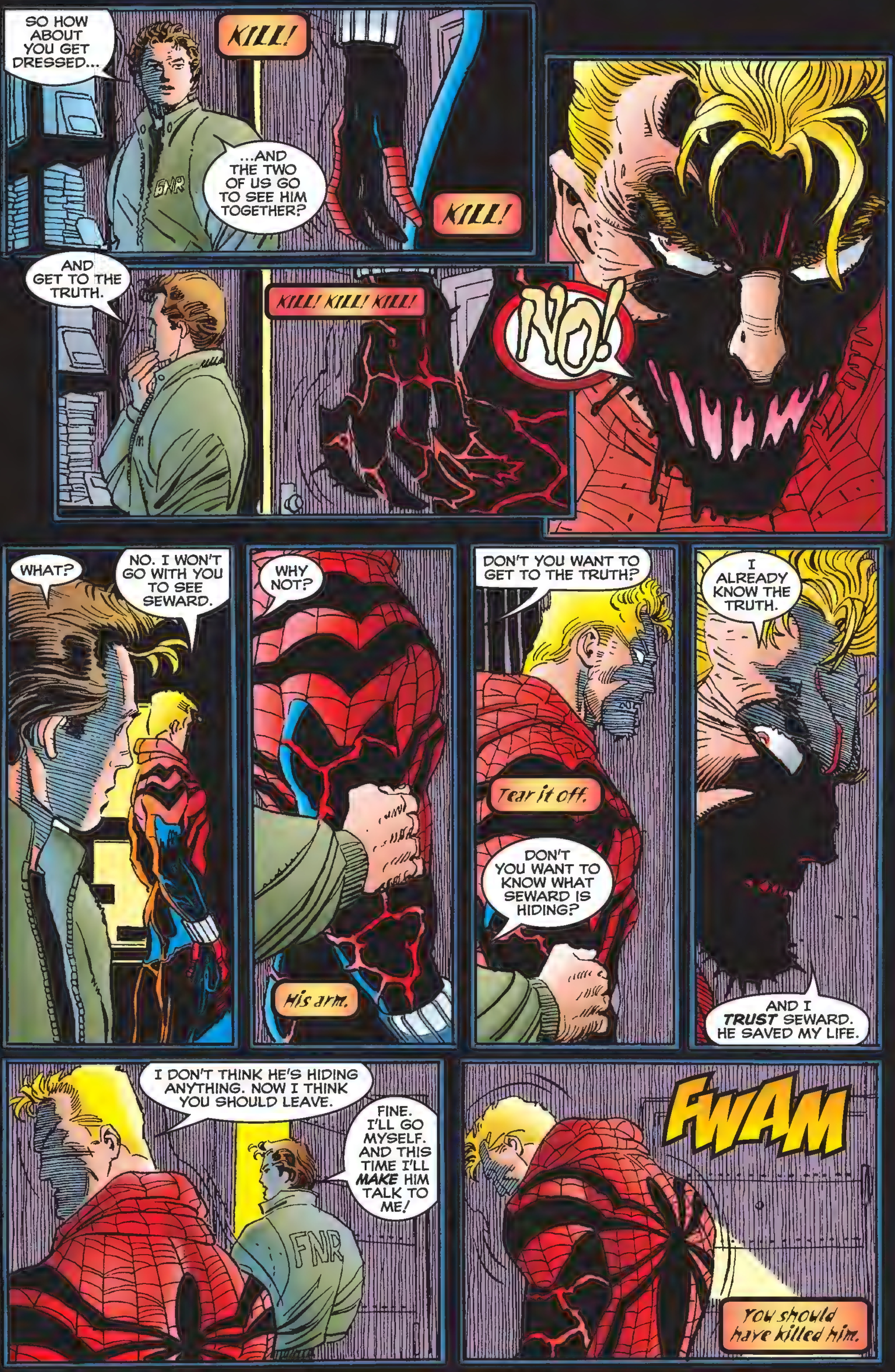

ELSEWHERE...
WHO AM I?
I USED TO THINK I KNEW.
NOW...
...I'M JUST NOT SO SURE.
I USED TO SWING ACROSS THIS CITY KNOWING THAT I COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
BUT THAT WAS BEFORE.
BEFORE BEN REILLY.
BEFORE THE JACKAL AND THE CLONES BECAME SUCH A PART OF MY LIFE.
BEFORE MARY JANE AND I MOVED OUT WEST.
BEFORE I LOST MY POWERS.
BEFORE.

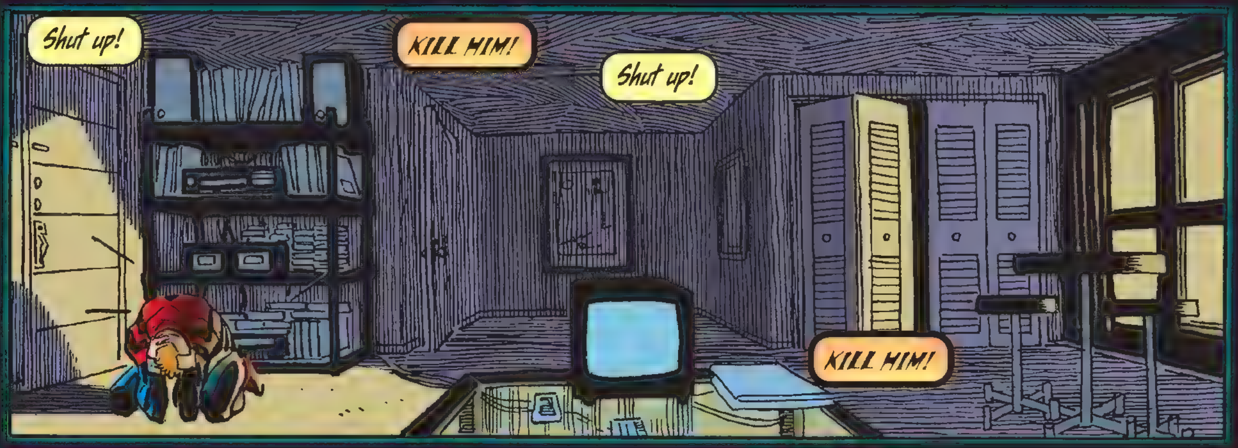

PETER!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
GETTING SOME AIR... THINKING.
AND RISKING YOUR LIFE BY STANDING SO CLOSE TO THE EDGE.
SORRY, MJ, BUT I'M REALLY OKAY.
I DO HAVE SOME EXPERIENCE ON ROOFTOPS, YOU KNOW.
YES, BUT THAT WAS BEFORE.
YEAH... I KNOW.
NOW I'M JUST REGULAR OLD PETER PARKER.
HUSBAND, FATHER, SCIENCE GUY AND PART-TIME PHOTOGRAPHER.
PRETTY BORING STUFF.
WELL I LIKE THE BORING PETER PARKER AND I DON'T WANT TO LOSE HIM... EVER.
SO LET'S JUST KEEP THE ROOFTOP WANDERING TO A MINIMUM... OKAY?
OKAY.
PETER, BEN CALLED A LITTLE WHILE AGO. HE SOUNDED AWFUL. I THINK MAYBE YOU SHOULD GO SEE IF --
IN A MINUTE. FIRST I NEED TO SPEND A MINUTE WITH THE MOTHER OF MY CHILD.

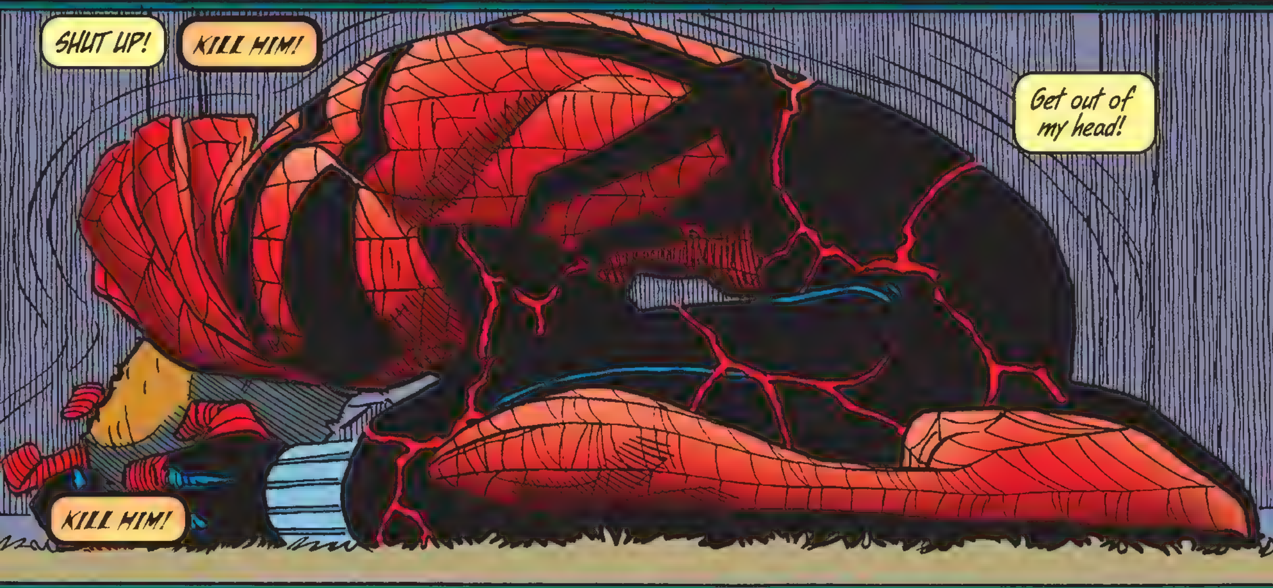

A SHORT TIME LATER...
BEN?
KNOCK KNOCK
KNOCK KNOCK
YOU HOME?
IT'S ME... PETER.
Peter... he came.
You can kill him.
No.
Then YOU would be the only one... the real one... no questions.
I AM the real one. HE's the clone.
Are you sure?
Yes.
Kill him and end it here.
No.
Kill him.
Shut up!
Kill...

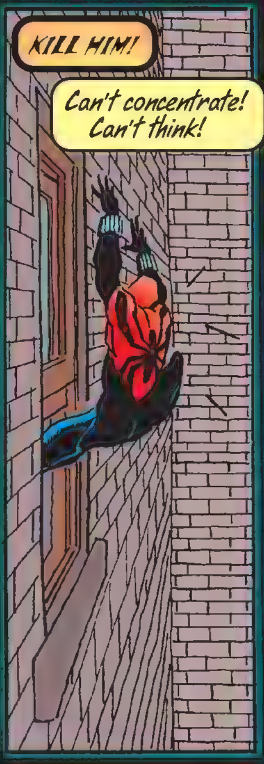

...him!
BEN?
MARY JANE SAID YOU CALLED.
ARE YOU FEELING OKAY? YOU LOOK TERRIBLE.
YEAH... WELL... THE LIFE OF A BIG TIME SUPER HERO.
BEEN THERE... DONE THAT... DON'T WANT TO GO THERE AGAIN.
I STILL CAN'T GET OVER THIS APARTMENT.
IT'S A LOT NICER THAN THE FIRST PLACE I HAD IN MANHATTAN.
I'LL TELL THAT TO THE RATS.
SO... WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT *IT?*
WHAT?
Kill him.

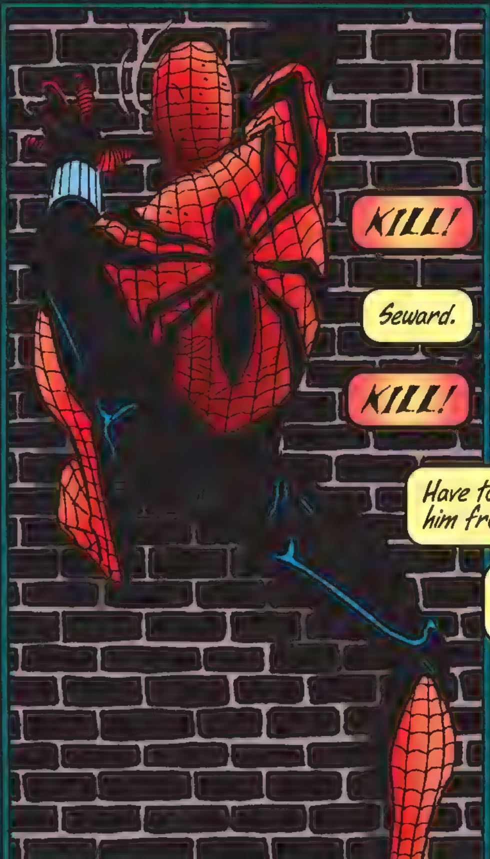

THE SKELETON. I ASSUMED THAT'S WHY YOU CALLED.
THE RESULTS OF THE AVENGERS ANALYSIS* KEEP NAGGING AT ME.
IT JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.
*SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #3. – Eric
YEAH... RIGHT... ME TOO.
Rip through his throat.
YOU AND I WERE THERE. WE DID MOST OF THE TESTS TO DETERMINE WHO WAS THE CLONE AND WHO WAS THE ORIGINAL PETER PARKER OURSELVES...
...DOUBLE-CHECKED EACH OTHER'S WORK.
SO HOW CAN THIS SKELETON BE TURNING UP AS THE CLONE?
I... DON'T... KNOW.
His blood is warm... KILL him!
I STILL SAY THE ONLY PERSON THAT CAN HELP US GET TO THE TRUTH IS YOUR FRIEND SEWARD.
Kill him.
HE BLEW ME OFF WHEN I TRIED TO SEE HIM IN THE HOSPITAL YESTERDAY.
I WANT YOU TO GO WITH ME TO SEE HIM IN THE HOSPITAL. HE'LL TALK TO YOU.
KILL!
WE'VE GOT TO PUT THIS BEHIND US... I THOUGHT IT WAS THERE ALREADY...
...BUT LET'S FINISH IT UP AND GET ON WITH OUR LIVES.

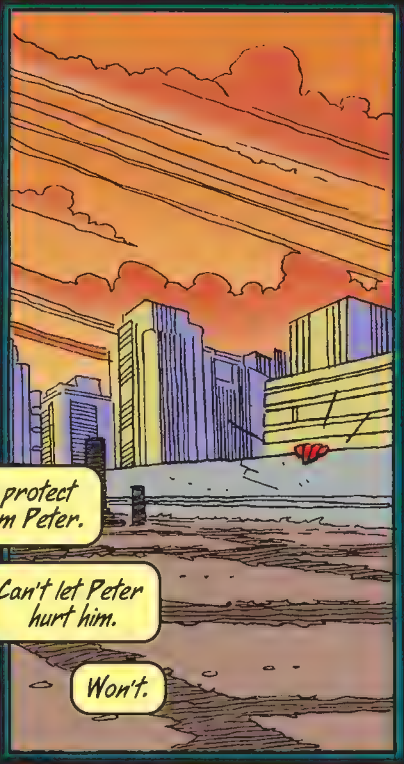

SO HOW ABOUT YOU GET DRESSED...
KILL!
...AND THE TWO OF US GO TO SEE HIM TOGETHER?
KILL!
AND GET TO THE TRUTH.
KILL! KILL! KILL!
NO!
WHAT?
NO. I WON'T GO WITH YOU TO SEE SEWARD.
WHY NOT?
His arm.
DON'T YOU WANT TO GET TO THE TRUTH?
Tear it off.
DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT SEWARD IS HIDING?
I ALREADY KNOW THE TRUTH.
AND I TRUST SEWARD. HE SAVED MY LIFE.
I DON'T THINK HE'S HIDING ANYTHING. NOW I THINK YOU SHOULD LEAVE.
FINE. I'LL GO MYSELF. AND THIS TIME I'LL MAKE HIM TALK TO ME!
FWAM
You should have killed him.

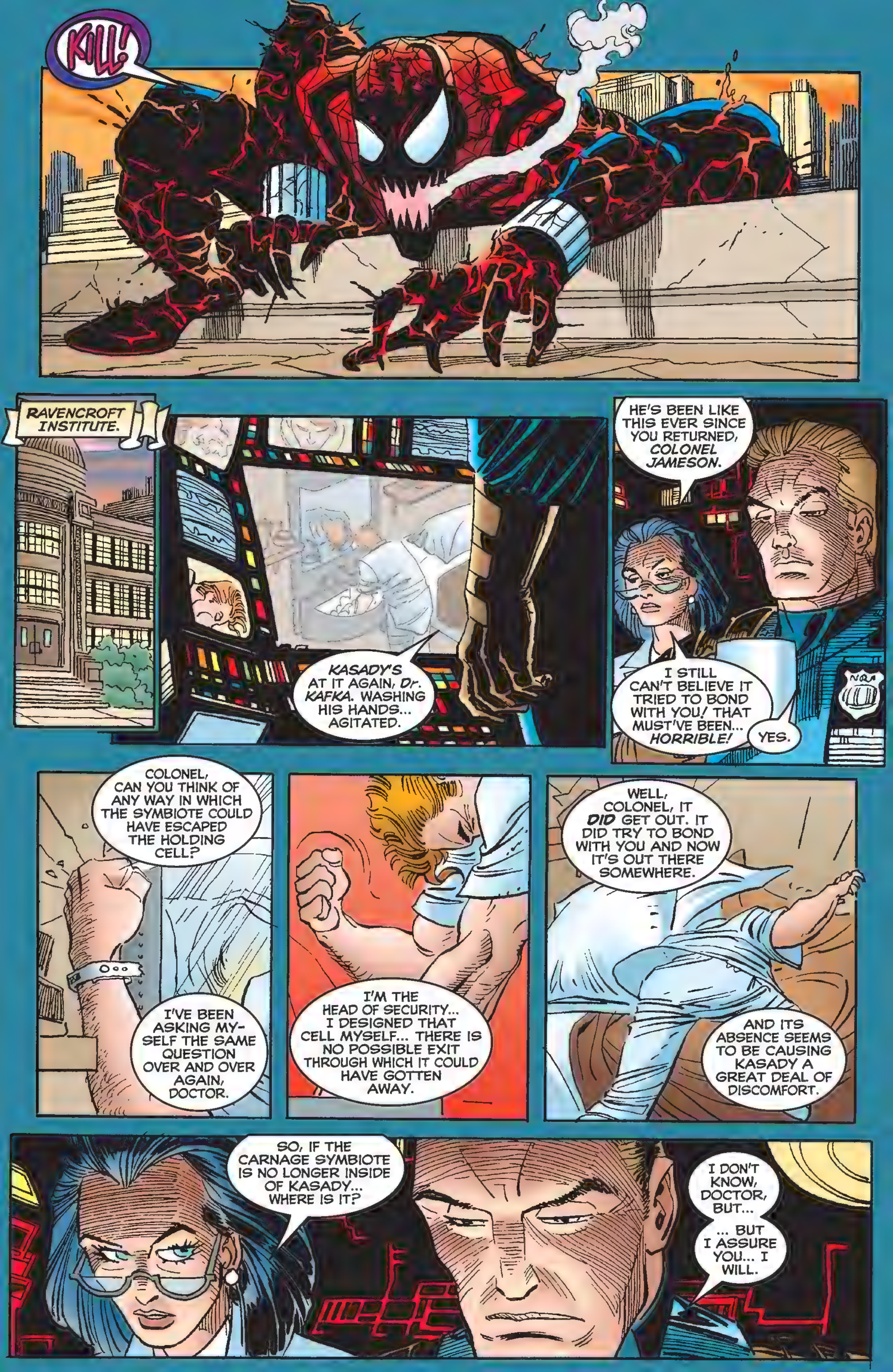

Shut up!
KILL HIM!
Shut up!
KILL HIM!

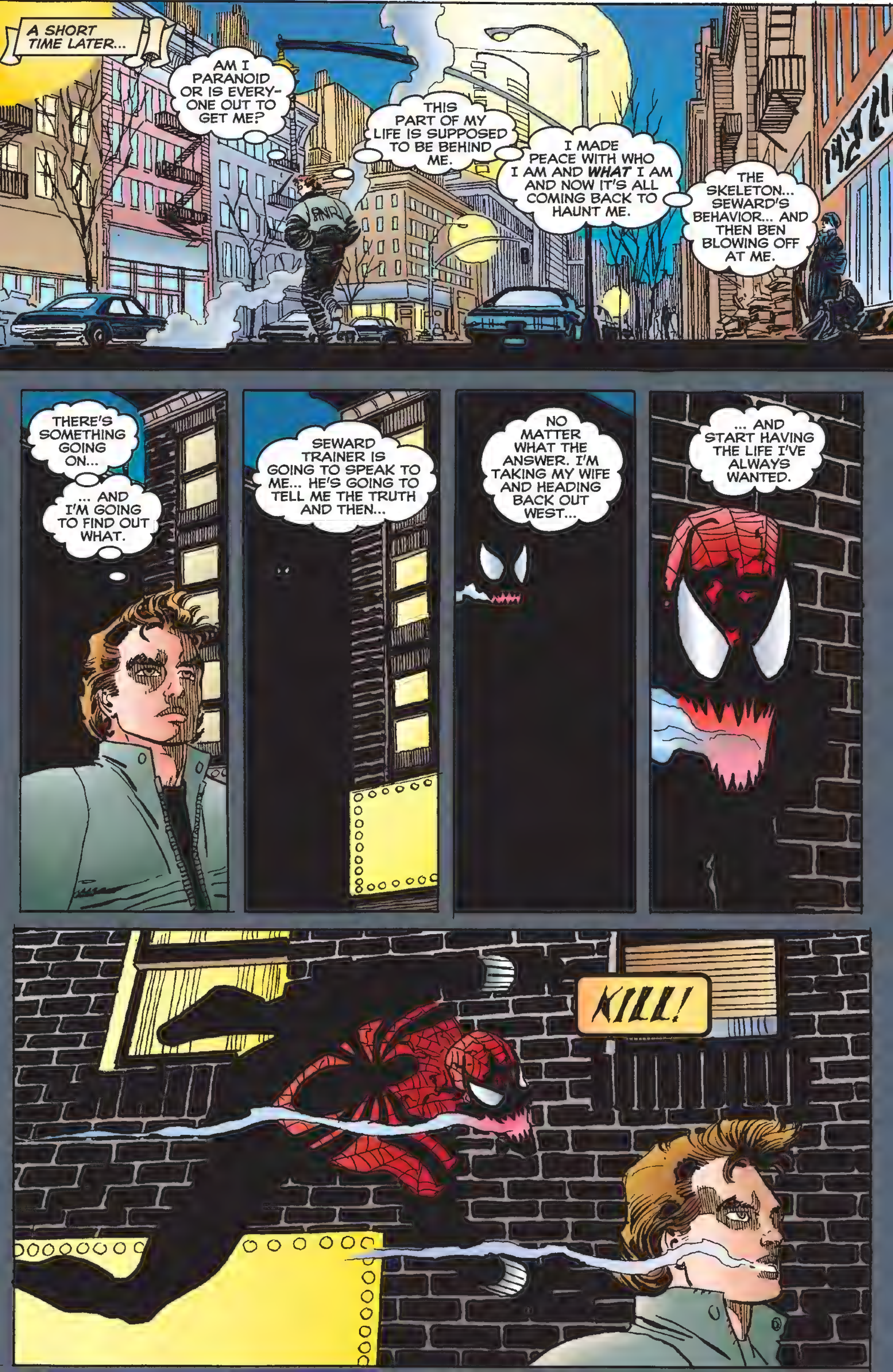

SHUT UP!
KILL HIM!
Get out of my head!
KILL HIM!

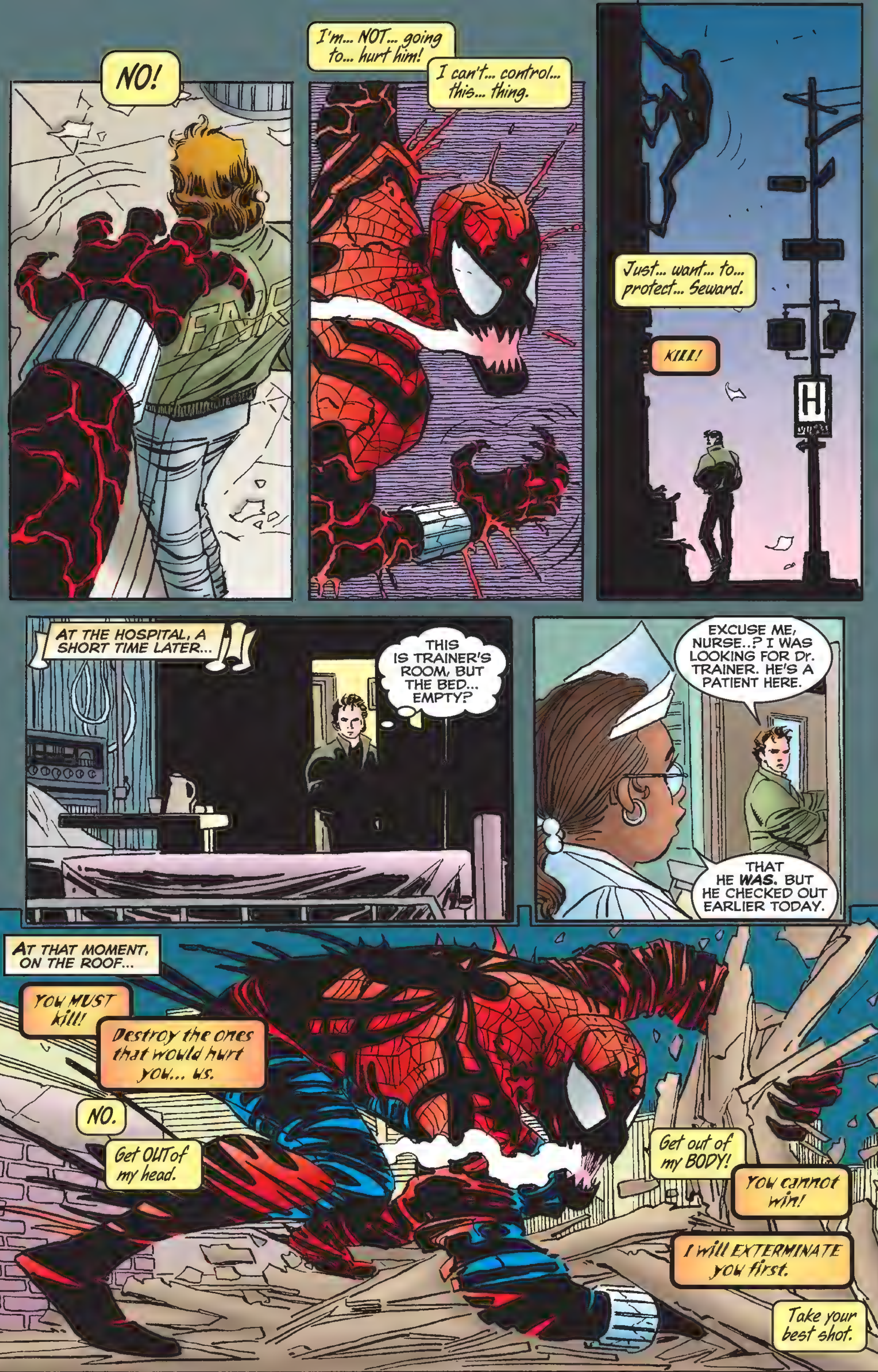

KILL HIM!
Can't concentrate! Can't think!

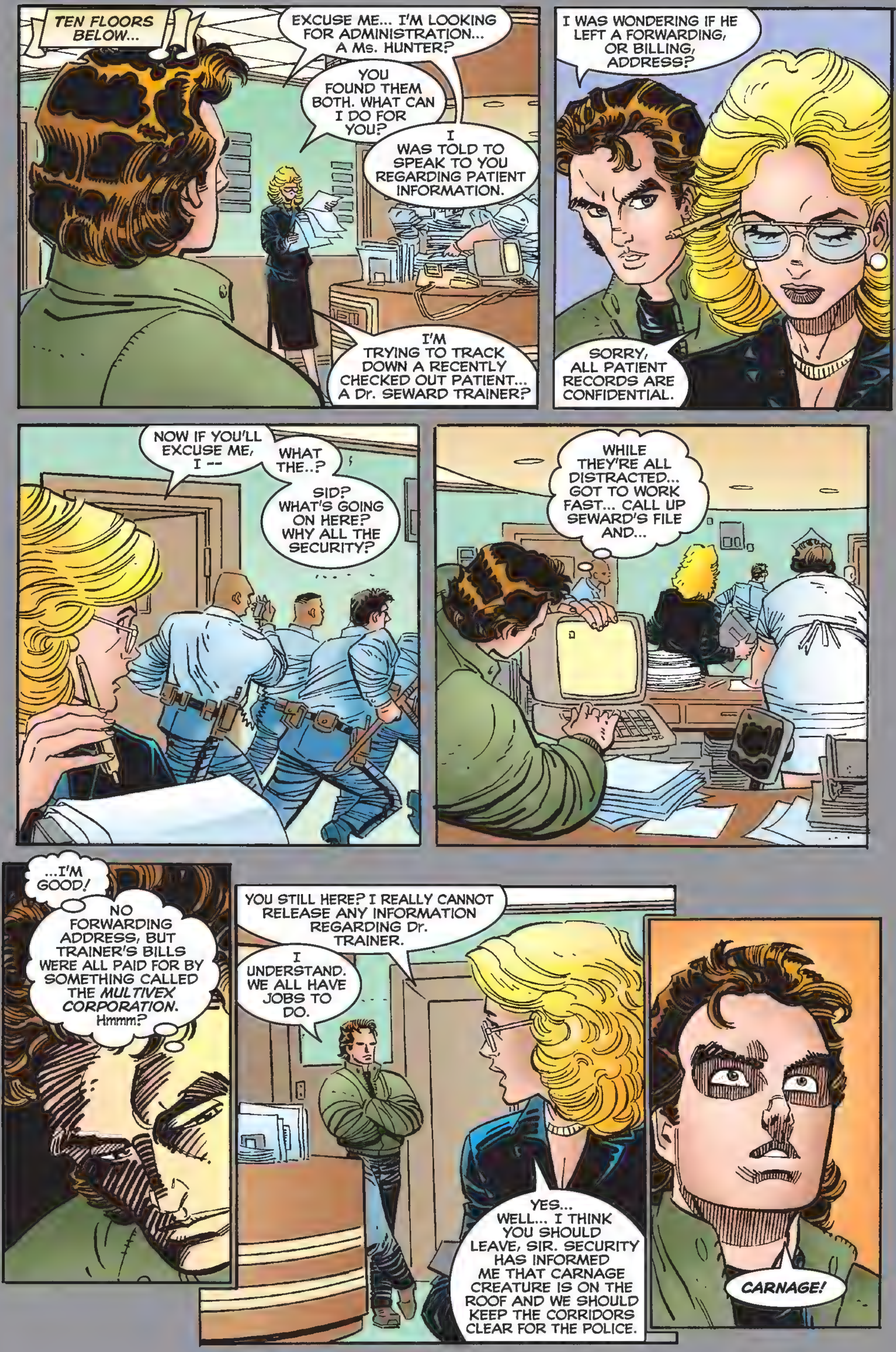

KILL!
Seward.
KILL!

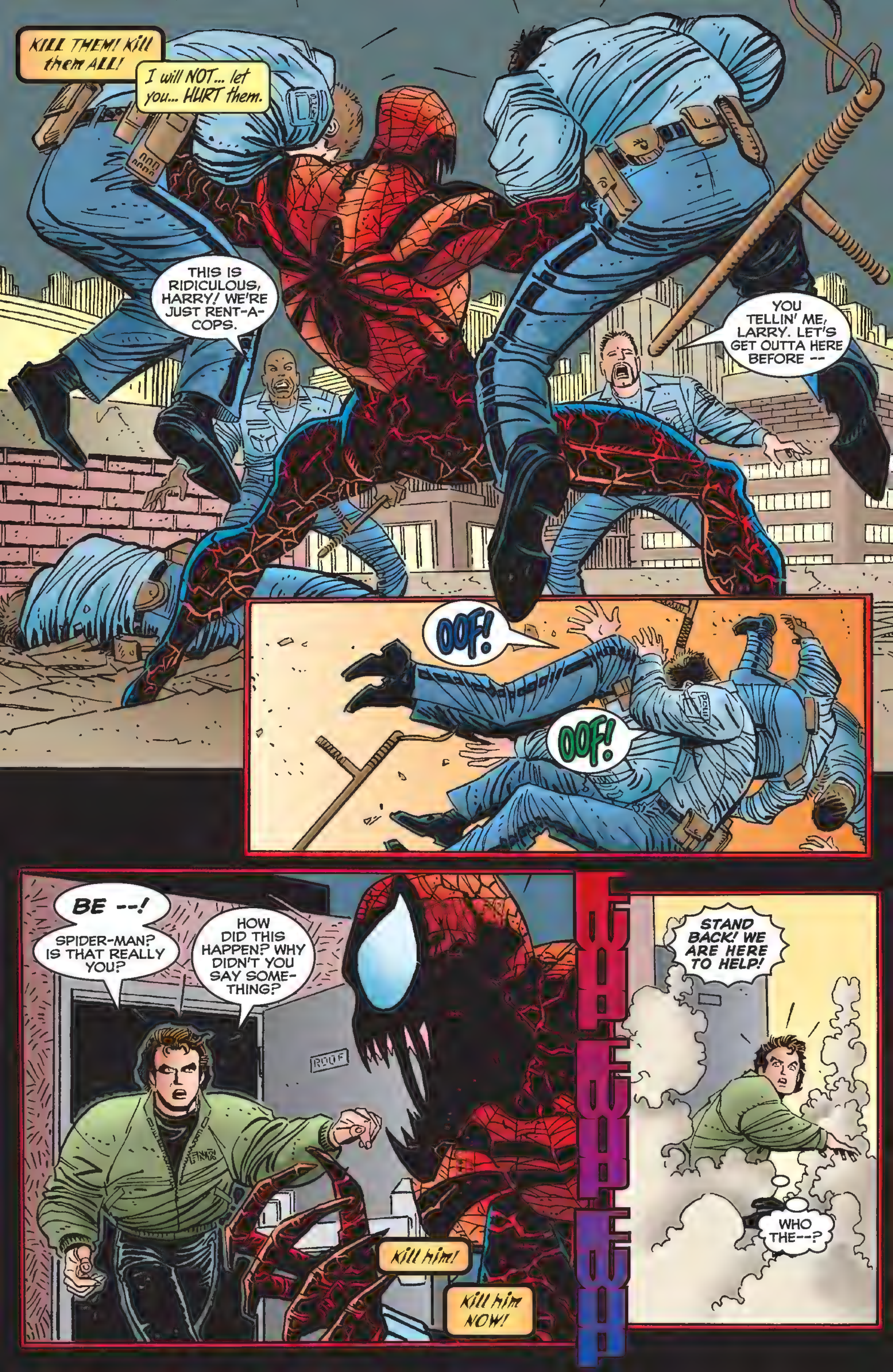

Have to protect him from Peter.
Can't let Peter hurt him.
Won't.

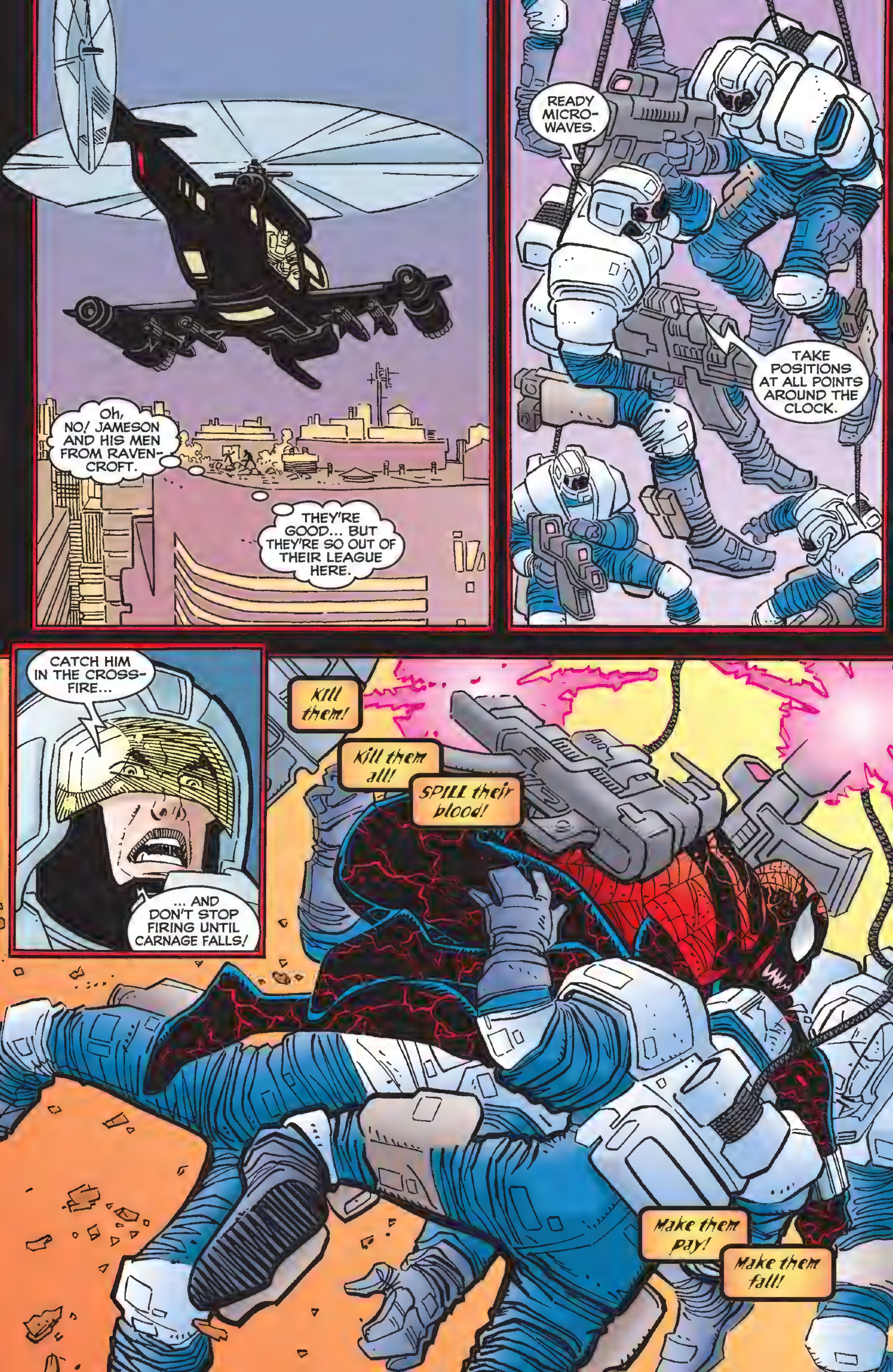

KILL!
RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE.
KASADY'S AT IT AGAIN, *Dr. KAFKA*. WASHING HIS HANDS... AGITATED.
HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS EVER SINCE YOU RETURNED, *COLONEL JAMESON*.
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT TRIED TO BOND WITH YOU*!* THAT MUST'VE BEEN... *HORRIBLE!*
YES.
COLONEL, CAN YOU THINK OF ANY WAY IN WHICH THE SYMBIOTE COULD HAVE ESCAPED THE HOLDING CELL?
I'VE BEEN ASKING MYSELF THE SAME QUESTION OVER AND OVER AGAIN, DOCTOR.
I'M THE HEAD OF SECURITY... I DESIGNED THAT CELL MYSELF... THERE IS NO POSSIBLE EXIT THROUGH WHICH IT COULD HAVE GOTTEN AWAY.
WELL, COLONEL, IT ***DID*** GET OUT. IT DID TRY TO BOND WITH YOU AND NOW IT'S OUT THERE SOMEWHERE.
AND ITS ABSENCE SEEMS TO BE CAUSING KASADY A GREAT DEAL OF DISCOMFORT.
SO, IF THE CARNAGE SYMBIOTE IS NO LONGER INSIDE OF KASADY... WHERE IS IT?
I DON'T KNOW, DOCTOR, BUT...
... BUT I ASSURE YOU... I WILL.

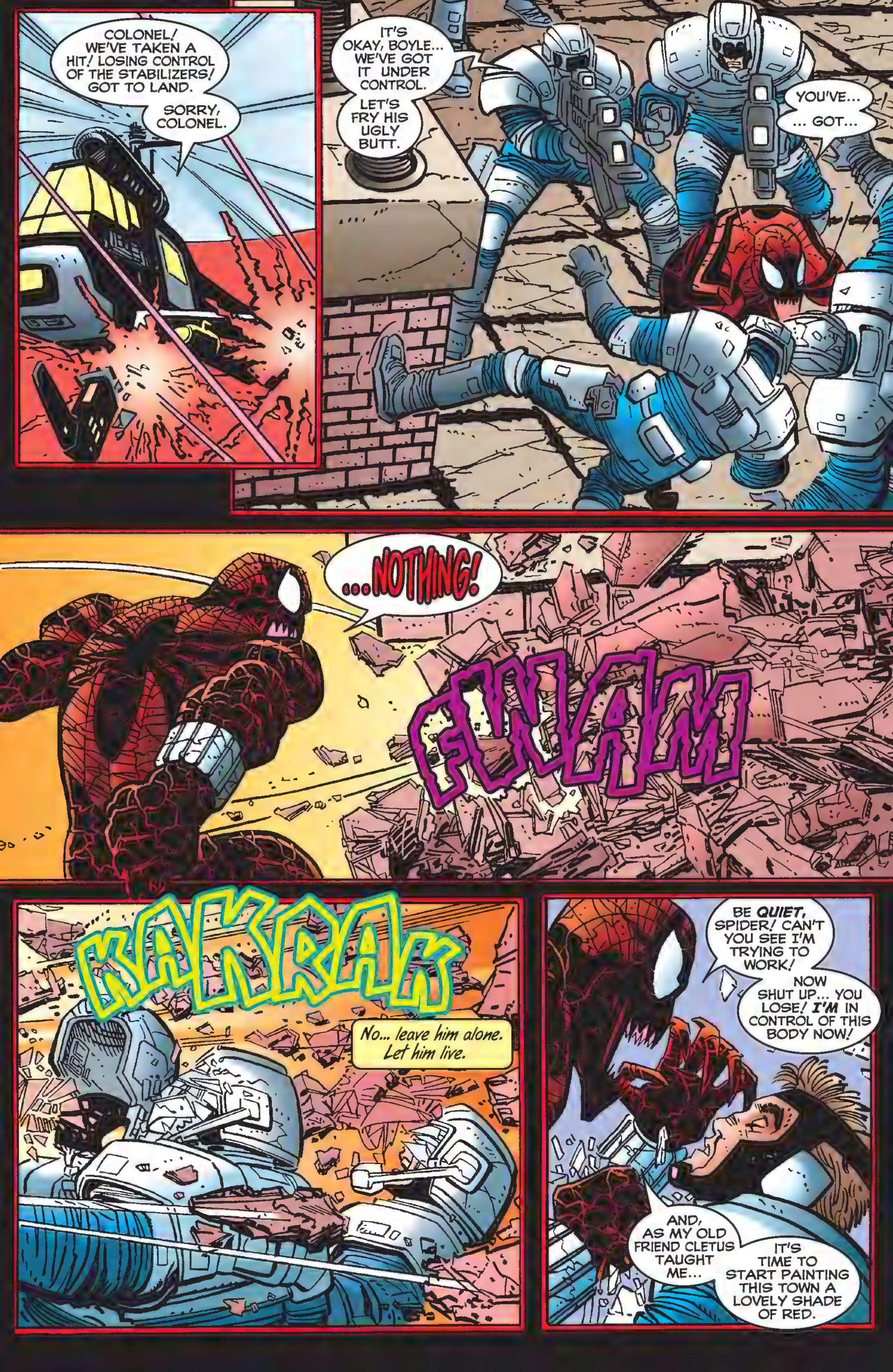

A SHORT TIME LATER...
AM I PARANOID OR IS EVERYONE OUT TO GET ME?
THIS PART OF MY LIFE IS SUPPOSED TO BE BEHIND ME.
I MADE PEACE WITH WHO I AM AND **WHAT** I AM AND NOW IT'S ALL COMING BACK TO HAUNT ME.
THE SKELETON... SEWARD'S BEHAVIOR... AND THEN BEN BLOWING OFF AT ME.
THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON...
... AND I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT.
SEWARD TRAINER IS GOING TO SPEAK TO ME... HE'S GOING TO TELL ME THE TRUTH AND THEN...
NO MATTER WHAT THE ANSWER. I'M TAKING MY WIFE AND HEADING BACK OUT WEST...
... AND START HAVING THE LIFE I'VE ALWAYS WANTED.
KILL!

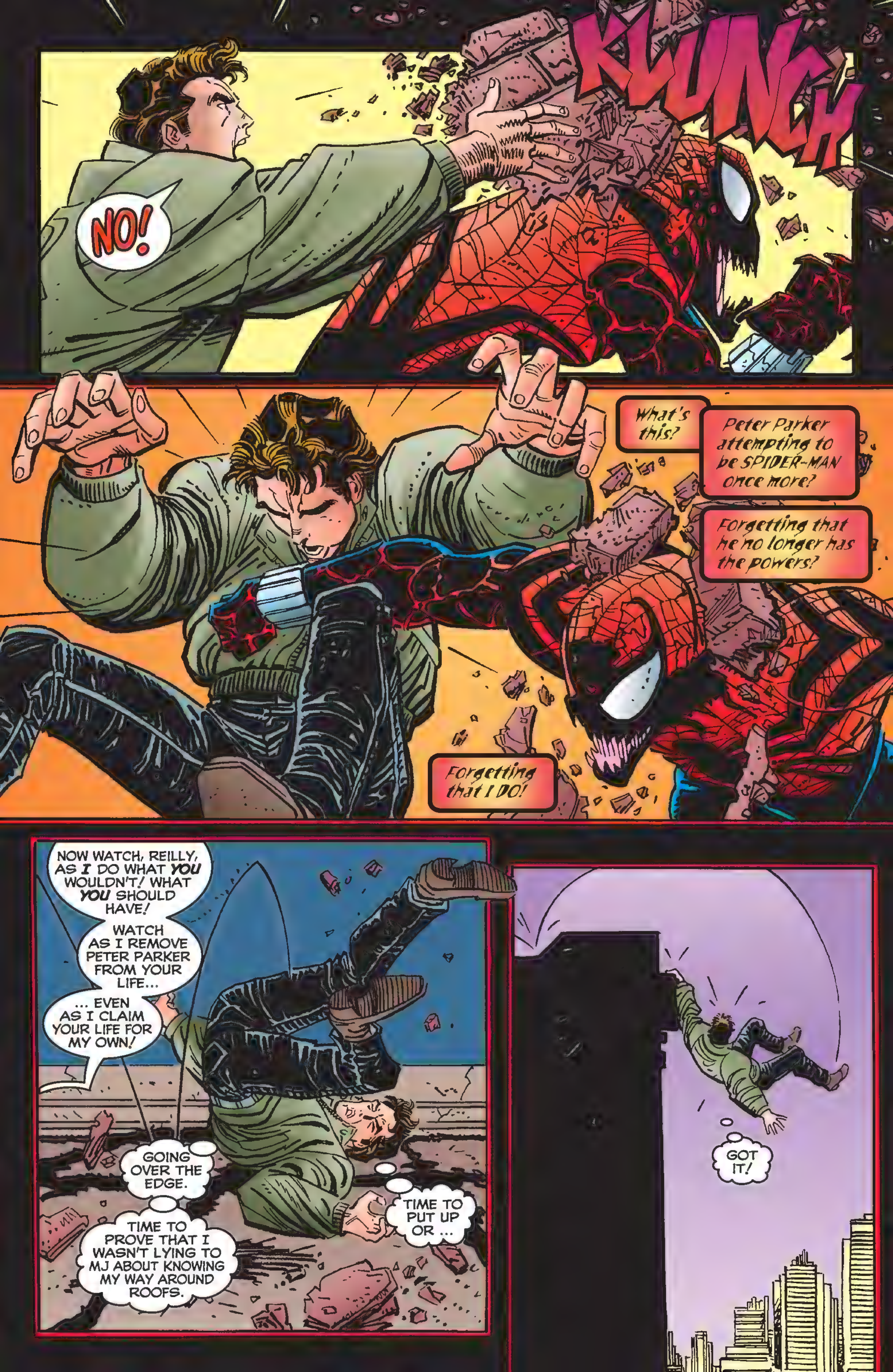

NO!
I'm... NOT... going to... hurt him!
I can't... control... this... thing.
Just... want... to... protect... Seward.
KILL!
AT THE HOSPITAL, A SHORT TIME LATER...
THIS IS TRAINER'S ROOM, BUT THE BED... EMPTY?
EXCUSE ME, NURSE..? I WAS LOOKING FOR Dr. TRAINER. HE'S A PATIENT HERE.
THAT HE WAS. BUT HE CHECKED OUT EARLIER TODAY.
AT THAT MOMENT, ON THE ROOF...
YOU MUST kill!
Destroy the ones that would hurt you... us.
NO.
Get OUT of my head.
Get out of my BODY!
You cannot win!
I will EXTERMINATE you first.
Take your best shot.
H

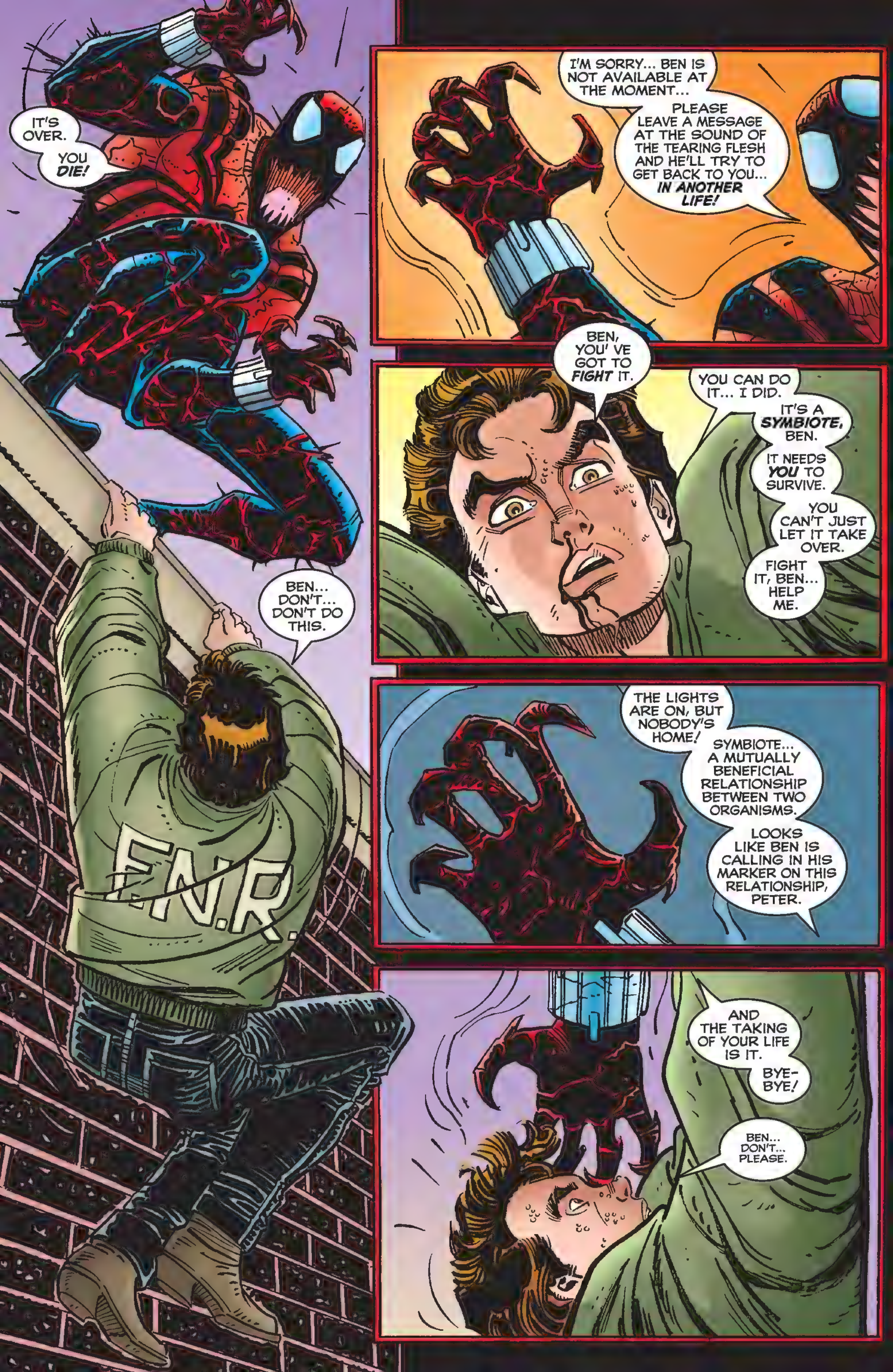

TEN FLOORS BELOW...
EXCUSE ME... I'M LOOKING FOR ADMINISTRATION... A Ms. HUNTER?
YOU FOUND THEM BOTH. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
I WAS TOLD TO SPEAK TO YOU REGARDING PATIENT INFORMATION.
I'M TRYING TO TRACK DOWN A RECENTLY CHECKED OUT PATIENT... A Dr. SEWARD TRAINER?
I WAS WONDERING IF HE LEFT A FORWARDING, OR BILLING, ADDRESS?
SORRY, ALL PATIENT RECORDS ARE CONFIDENTIAL.
NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I --
WHAT THE..?
SID? WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHY ALL THE SECURITY?
WHILE THEY'RE ALL DISTRACTED... GOT TO WORK FAST... CALL UP SEWARD'S FILE AND...
...I'M GOOD!
NO FORWARDING ADDRESS, BUT TRAINER'S BILLS WERE ALL PAID FOR BY SOMETHING CALLED THE MULTIVEX CORPORATION. Hmmm?
YOU STILL HERE? I REALLY CANNOT RELEASE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING Dr. TRAINER.
I UNDERSTAND. WE ALL HAVE JOBS TO DO.
YES... WELL... I THINK YOU SHOULD LEAVE, SIR. SECURITY HAS INFORMED ME THAT CARNAGE CREATURE IS ON THE ROOF AND WE SHOULD KEEP THE CORRIDORS CLEAR FOR THE POLICE.
CARNAGE!

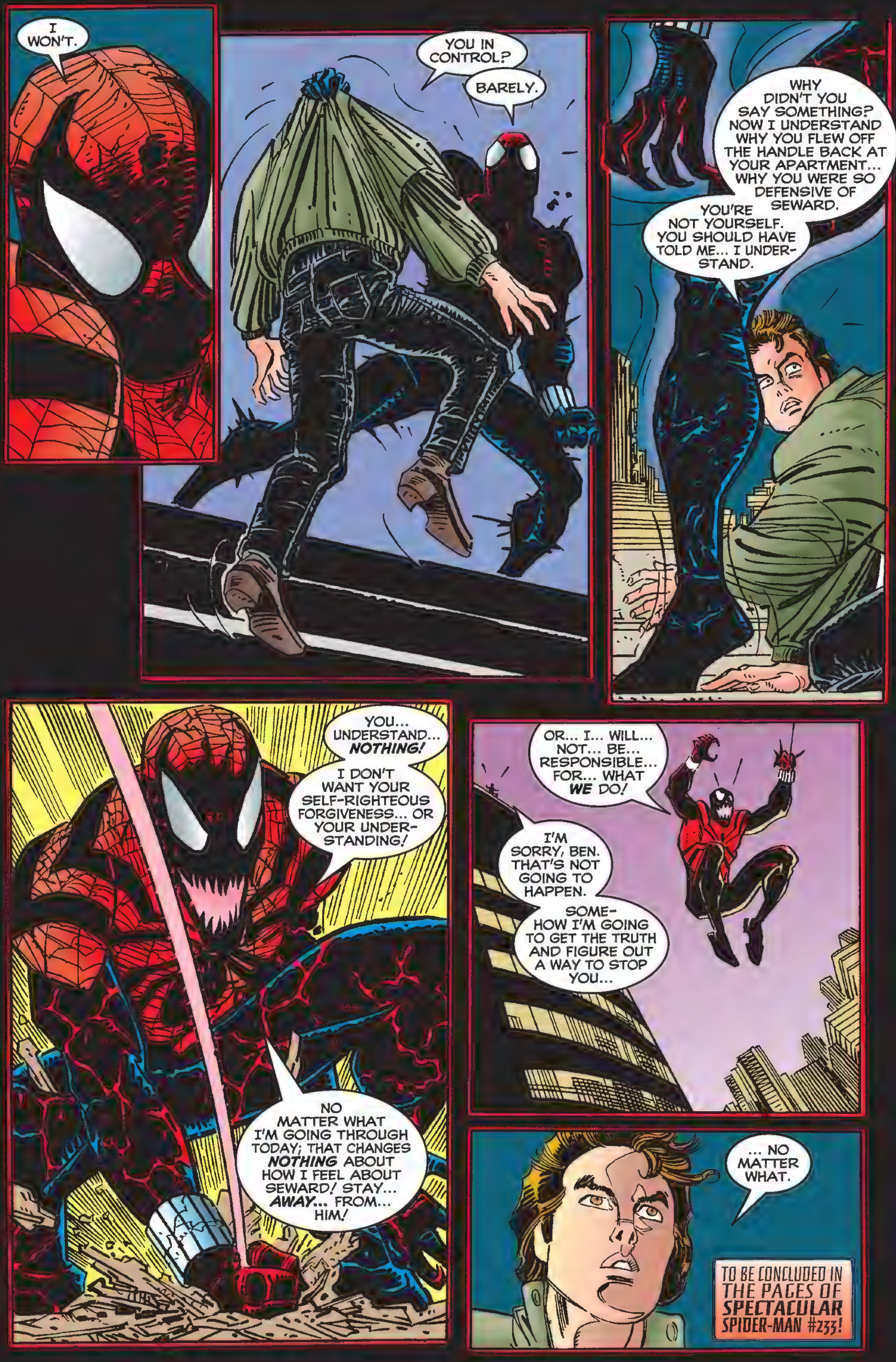

KILL THEM! Kill them ALL!
I will NOT... let you... HURT them.
THIS IS RIDICULOUS, HARRY! WE'RE JUST RENT-A-COPS.
YOU TELLIN' ME, LARRY. LET'S GET OUTTA HERE BEFORE --
OOF!
OOF!
BE --!
SPIDER-MAN? IS THAT REALLY YOU?
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN? WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SOMETHING?
ROOF
Kill him!
Kill him NOW!
STAND BACK! WE ARE HERE TO HELP!
WHO THE--?

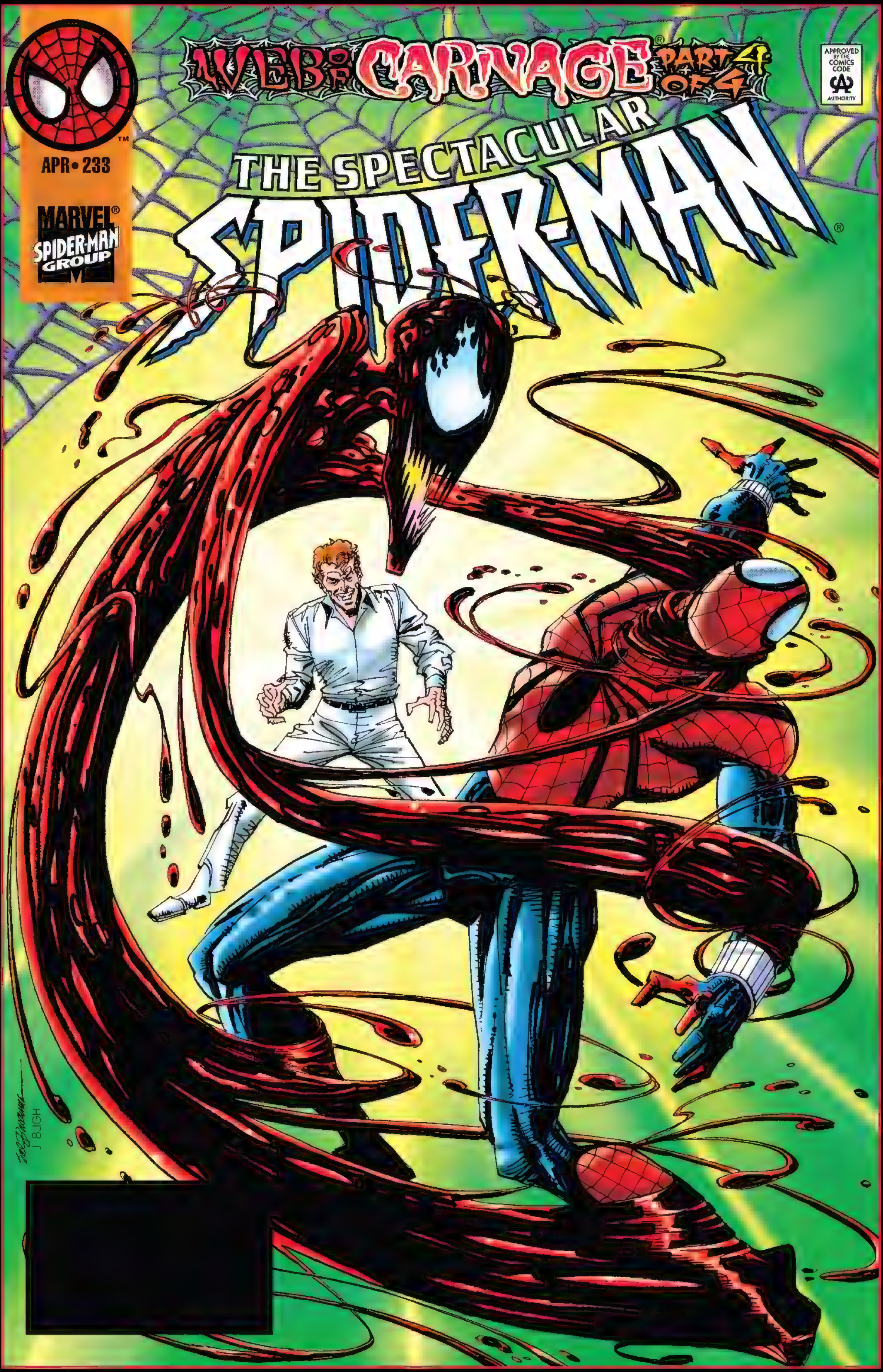

Oh, NO! JAMESON AND HIS MEN FROM RAVENCROFT.
THEY'RE GOOD... BUT THEY'RE SO OUT OF THEIR LEAGUE HERE.
READY MICROWAVES.
TAKE POSITIONS AT ALL POINTS AROUND THE CLOCK.
CATCH HIM IN THE CROSSFIRE...
... AND DON'T STOP FIRING UNTIL CARNAGE FALLS!
Kill them!
Kill them all!
SPILL their blood!
Make them pay!
Make them fall!

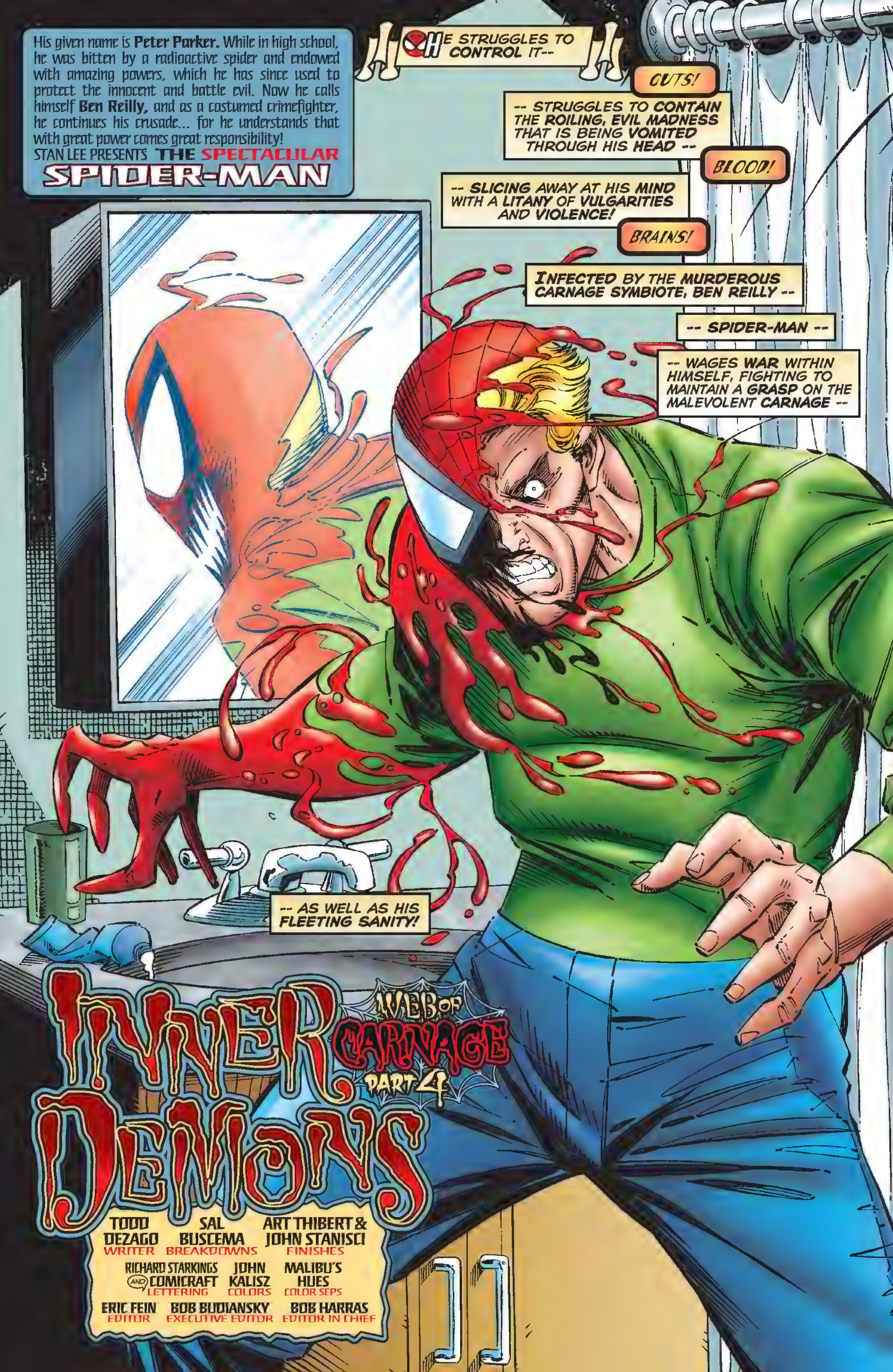

COLONEL! WE'VE TAKEN A HIT! LOSING CONTROL OF THE STABILIZERS! GOT TO LAND.
SORRY, COLONEL.
IT'S OKAY, BOYLE... WE'VE GOT IT UNDER CONTROL.
LET'S FRY HIS UGLY BUTT.
YOU'VE...
... GOT...
...NOTHING!
FWAM
KAKRAK
No... leave him alone. Let him live.
BE QUIET, SPIDER! CAN'T YOU SEE I'M TRYING TO WORK!
NOW SHUT UP... YOU LOSE! I'M IN CONTROL OF THIS BODY NOW!
AND, AS MY OLD FRIEND CLETUS TAUGHT ME...
IT'S TIME TO START PAINTING THIS TOWN A LOVELY SHADE OF RED.

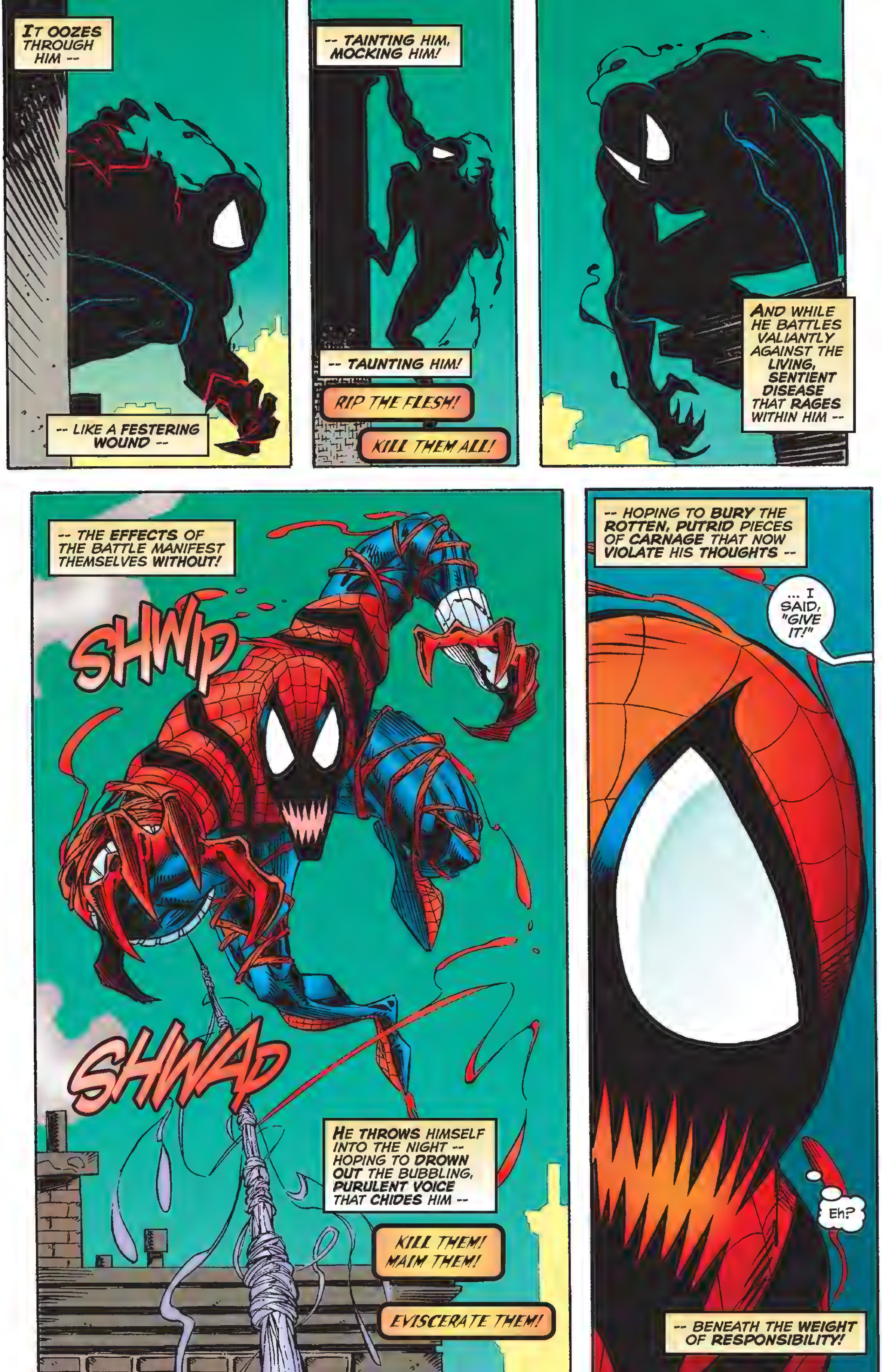

KLUNCH
NO!
What's this?
Peter Parker attempting to be SPIDER-MAN once more?
Forgetting that he no longer has the powers?
Forgetting that I DO!
NOW WATCH, REILLY, AS I DO WHAT YOU WOULDN'T! WHAT YOU SHOULD HAVE!
WATCH AS I REMOVE PETER PARKER FROM YOUR LIFE...
... EVEN AS I CLAIM YOUR LIFE FOR MY OWN!
GOING OVER THE EDGE.
TIME TO PROVE THAT I WASN'T LYING TO MJ ABOUT KNOWING MY WAY AROUND ROOFS.
TIME TO PUT UP OR ...
GOT IT!

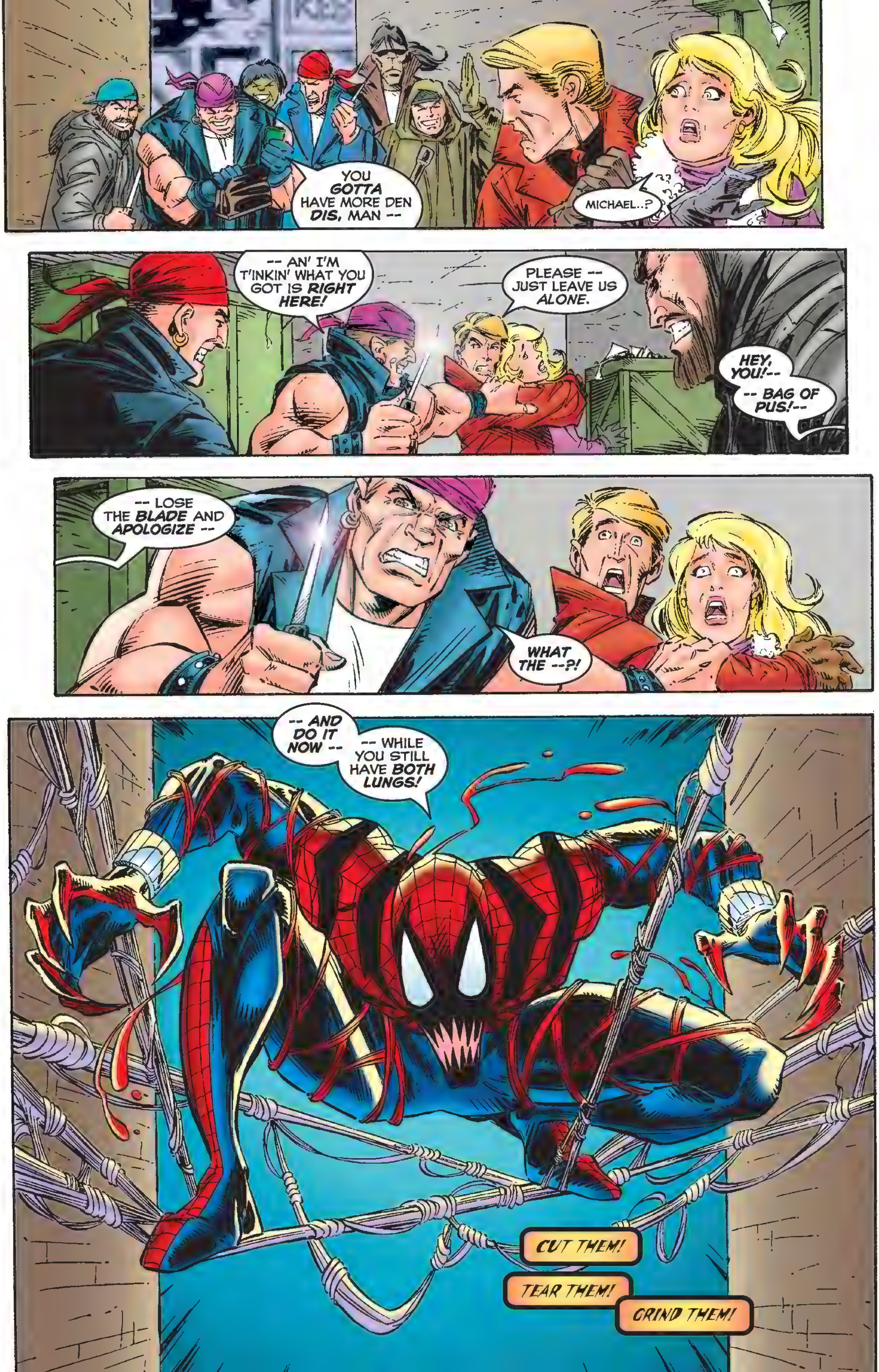

IT'S OVER.
YOU *DIE!*
BEN... DON'T... DON'T DO THIS.
I'M SORRY... BEN IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THE MOMENT...
PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AT THE SOUND OF THE TEARING FLESH AND HE'LL TRY TO GET BACK TO YOU... ***IN ANOTHER LIFE!***
BEN, YOU' VE GOT TO *FIGHT* IT.
YOU CAN DO IT... I DID.
IT'S A ***SYMBIOTE,*** BEN.
IT NEEDS ***YOU*** TO SURVIVE.
YOU CAN'T JUST LET IT TAKE OVER.
FIGHT IT, BEN... HELP ME.
THE LIGHTS ARE ON, BUT NOBODY'S HOME!
SYMBIOTE... A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TWO ORGANISMS.
LOOKS LIKE BEN IS CALLING IN HIS MARKER ON THIS RELATIONSHIP, PETER.
AND THE TAKING OF YOUR LIFE IS IT.
BYE-BYE!
BEN... DON'T... PLEASE.
F.N.R.

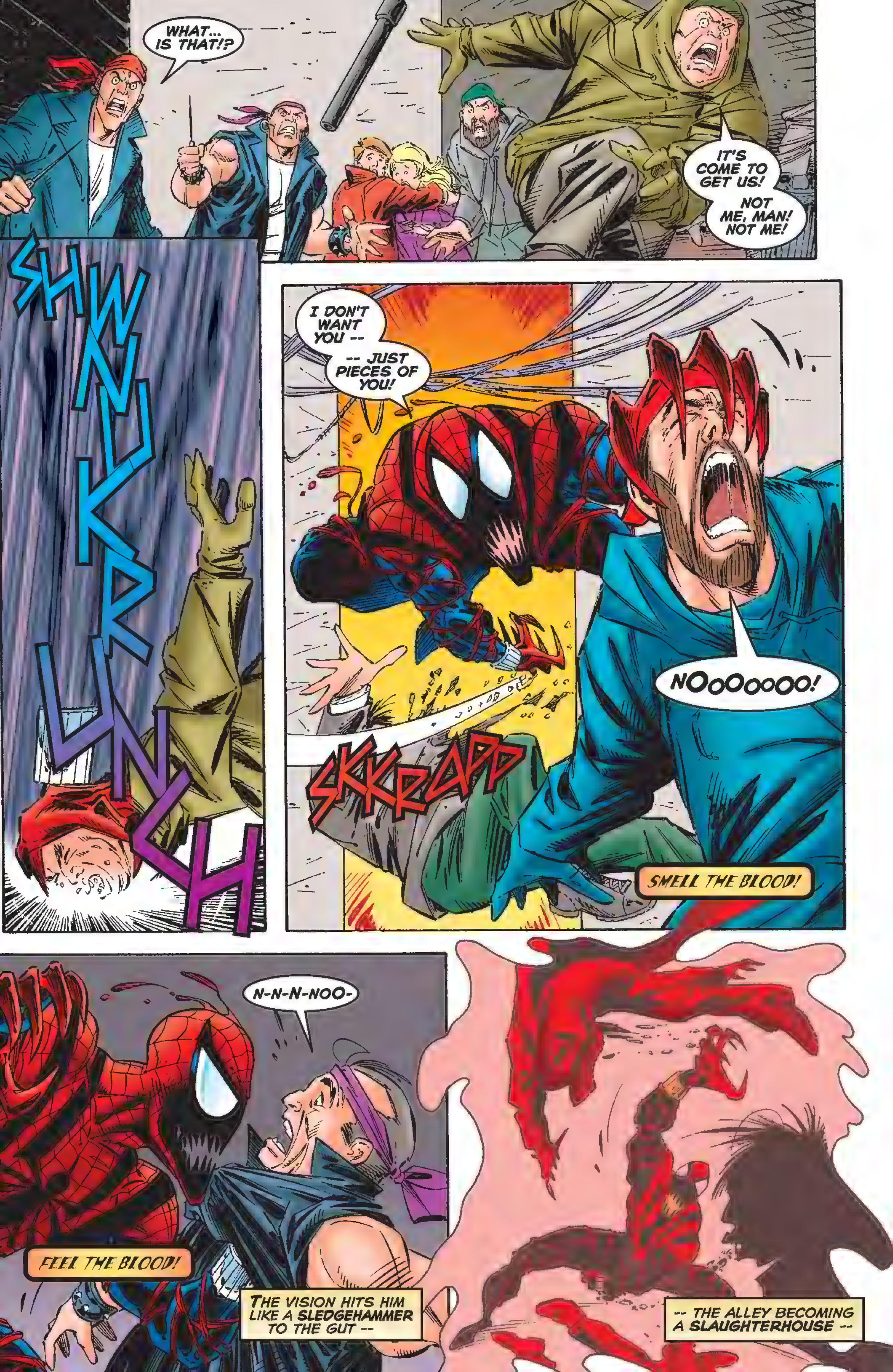

I WON'T.
YOU IN CONTROL?
BARELY.
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SOMETHING? NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU FLEW OFF THE HANDLE BACK AT YOUR APARTMENT... WHY YOU WERE SO DEFENSIVE OF SEWARD.
YOU'RE NOT YOURSELF. YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME... I UNDERSTAND.
YOU... UNDERSTAND... NOTHING!
I DON'T WANT YOUR SELF-RIGHTEOUS FORGIVENESS... OR YOUR UNDERSTANDING!
NO MATTER WHAT I'M GOING THROUGH TODAY; THAT CHANGES NOTHING ABOUT HOW I FEEL ABOUT SEWARD! STAY... AWAY... FROM... HIM!
OR... I... WILL... NOT... BE... RESPONSIBLE... FOR... WHAT WE DO!
I'M SORRY, BEN. THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN.
SOMEHOW I'M GOING TO GET THE TRUTH AND FIGURE OUT A WAY TO STOP YOU...
... NO MATTER WHAT.
TO BE CONCLUDED IN THE PAGES OF SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #233!

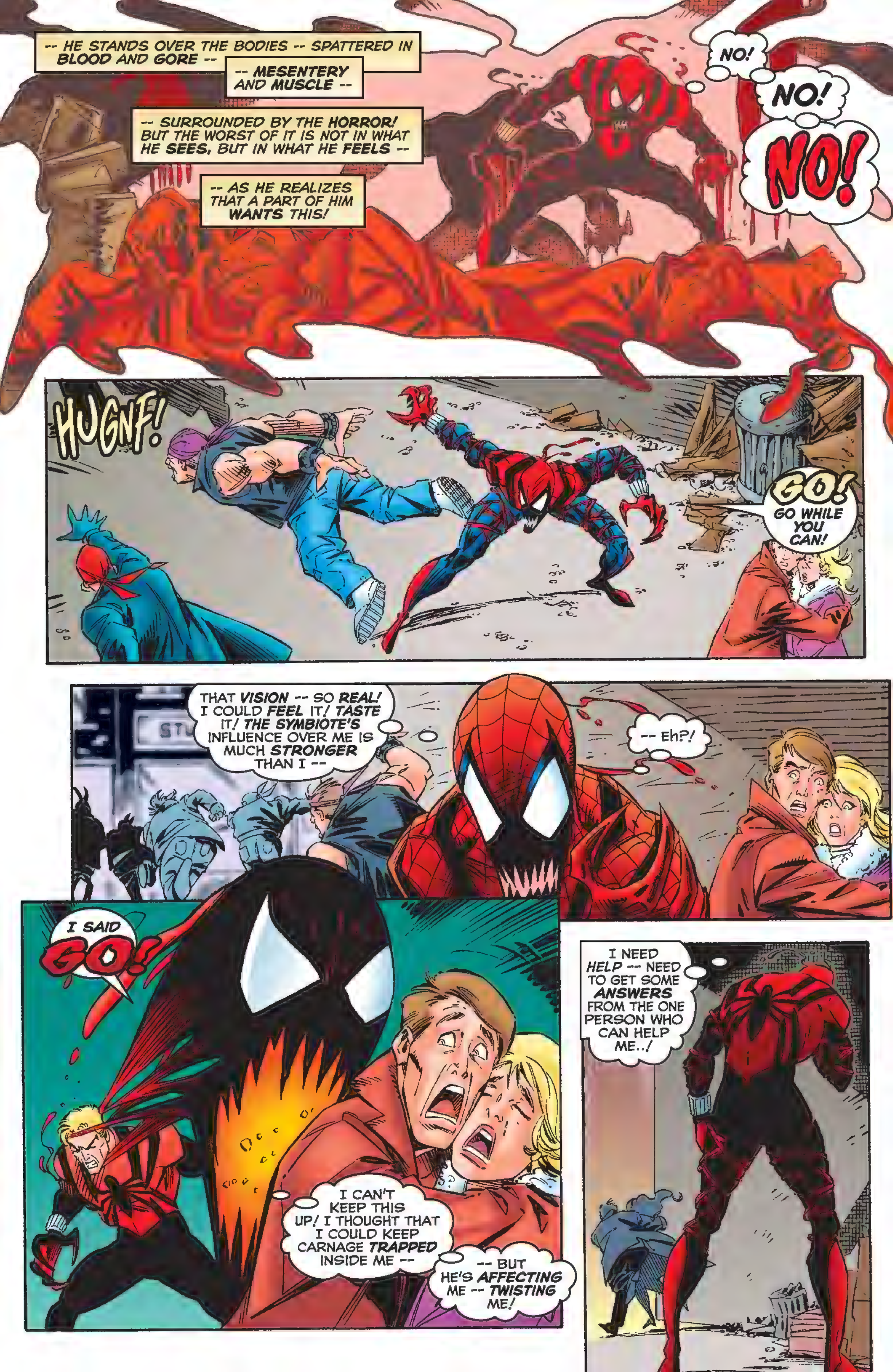

WEB OF CARNAGE® PART 4 OF 4
APR • 233
MARVEL®
SPIDER-MAN GROUP
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN®
J. BLIGH

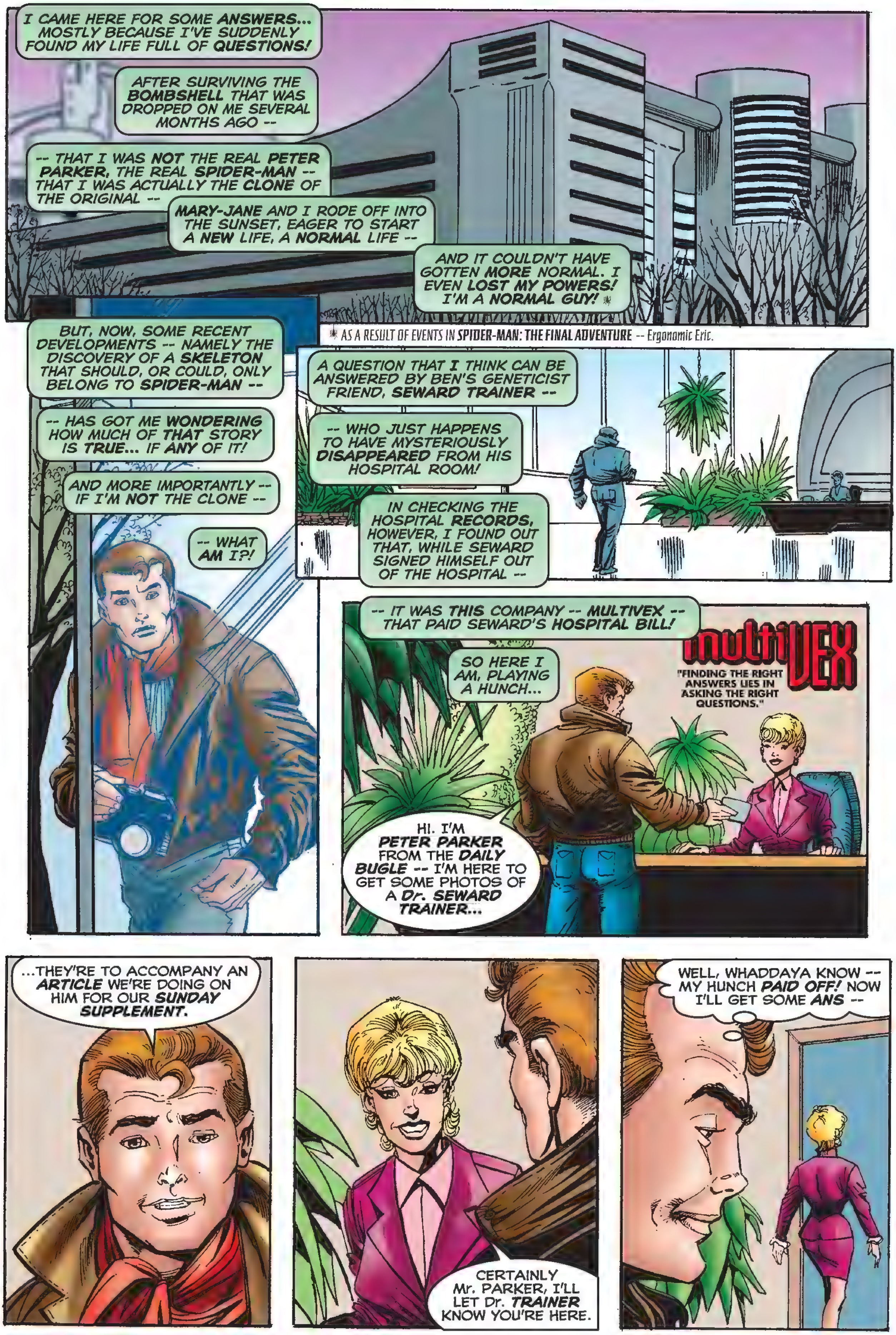

His given name is **Peter Parker.** While in high school, he was bitten by a radioactive spider and endowed with amazing powers, which he has since used to protect the innocent and battle evil. Now he calls himself **Ben Reilly,** and as a costumed crimefighter, he continues his crusade... for he understands that with great power comes great responsibility!
STAN LEE PRESENTS THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN
HE STRUGGLES TO CONTROL IT--
CUTS!
-- STRUGGLES TO CONTAIN THE ROILING, EVIL MADNESS THAT IS BEING VOMITED THROUGH HIS HEAD --
BLOOD!
-- SLICING AWAY AT HIS MIND WITH A LITANY OF VULGARITIES AND VIOLENCE!
BRAINS!
INFECTED BY THE MURDEROUS CARNAGE SYMBIOTE, BEN REILLY --
-- SPIDER-MAN --
-- WAGES WAR WITHIN HIMSELF, FIGHTING TO MAINTAIN A GRASP ON THE MALEVOLENT CARNAGE --
-- AS WELL AS HIS FLEETING SANITY!
INNER DEMONS
WEB OF CARNAGE PART 4
TODD DEZAGO WRITER
SAL BUSCEMA BREAKDOWNS
ART THIBERT & JOHN STANISCI FINISHES
RICHARD STARKINGS AND COMICRAFT LETTERING
JOHN KALISZ COLORS
MALIBU'S HUES COLOR SEPS
ERIC FEIN EDITOR
BOB BUDIANSKY EXECUTIVE EDITOR
BOB HARRAS EDITOR IN CHIEF

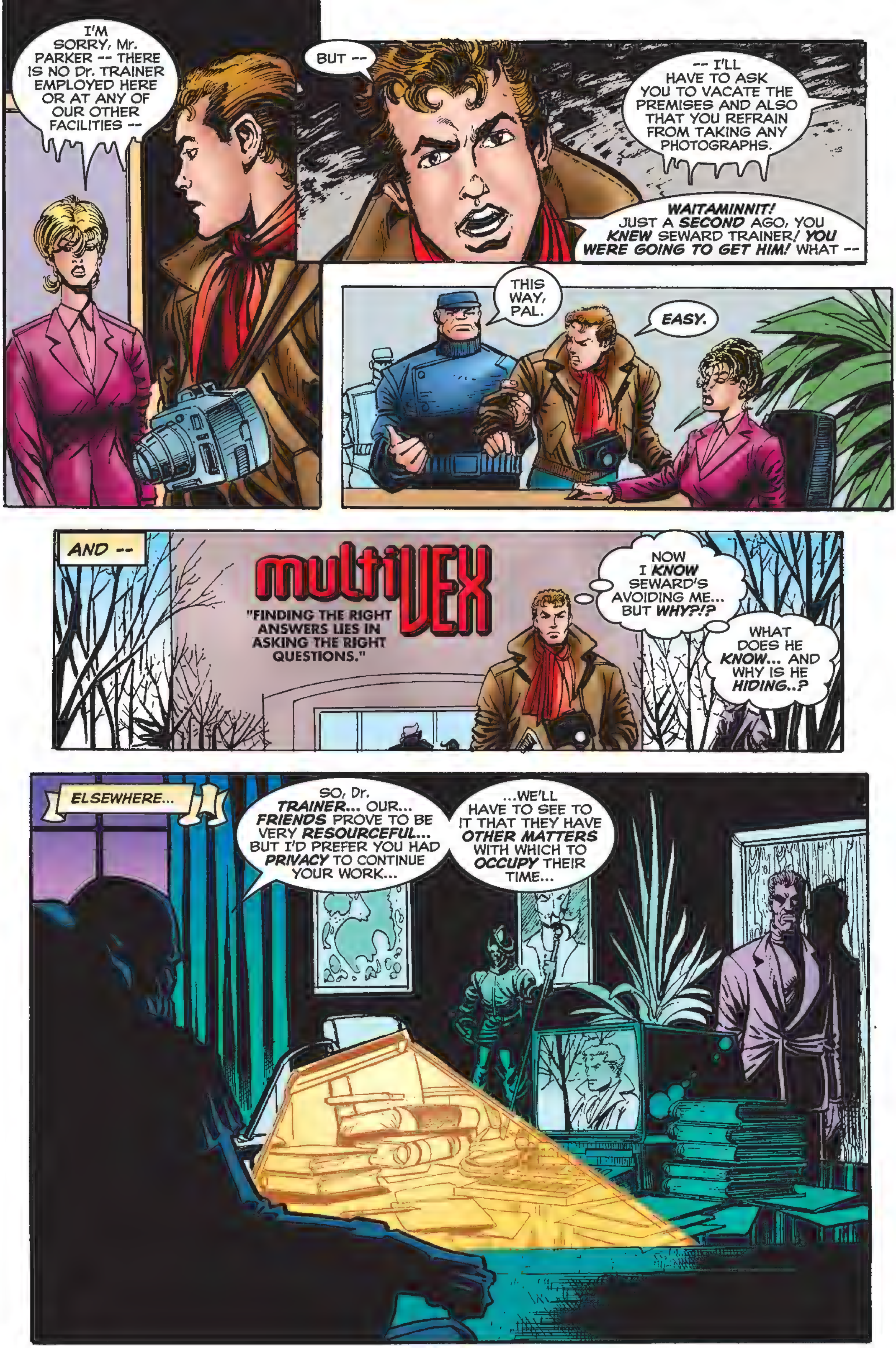

IT OOZES THROUGH HIM --
-- LIKE A FESTERING WOUND --
-- TAINTING HIM, MOCKING HIM!
-- TAUNTING HIM!
RIP THE FLESH!
KILL THEM ALL!
AND WHILE HE BATTLES VALIANTLY AGAINST THE LIVING, SENTIENT DISEASE THAT RAGES WITHIN HIM --
-- THE EFFECTS OF THE BATTLE MANIFEST THEMSELVES WITHOUT!
SHWIP
SHWAP
HE THROWS HIMSELF INTO THE NIGHT -- HOPING TO DROWN OUT THE BUBBLING, PURULENT VOICE THAT CHIDES HIM --
KILL THEM! MAIM THEM!
EVISCERATE THEM!
-- HOPING TO BURY THE ROTTEN, PUTRID PIECES OF CARNAGE THAT NOW VIOLATE HIS THOUGHTS --
... I SAID, "GIVE IT!"
Eh?
-- BENEATH THE WEIGHT OF RESPONSIBILITY!

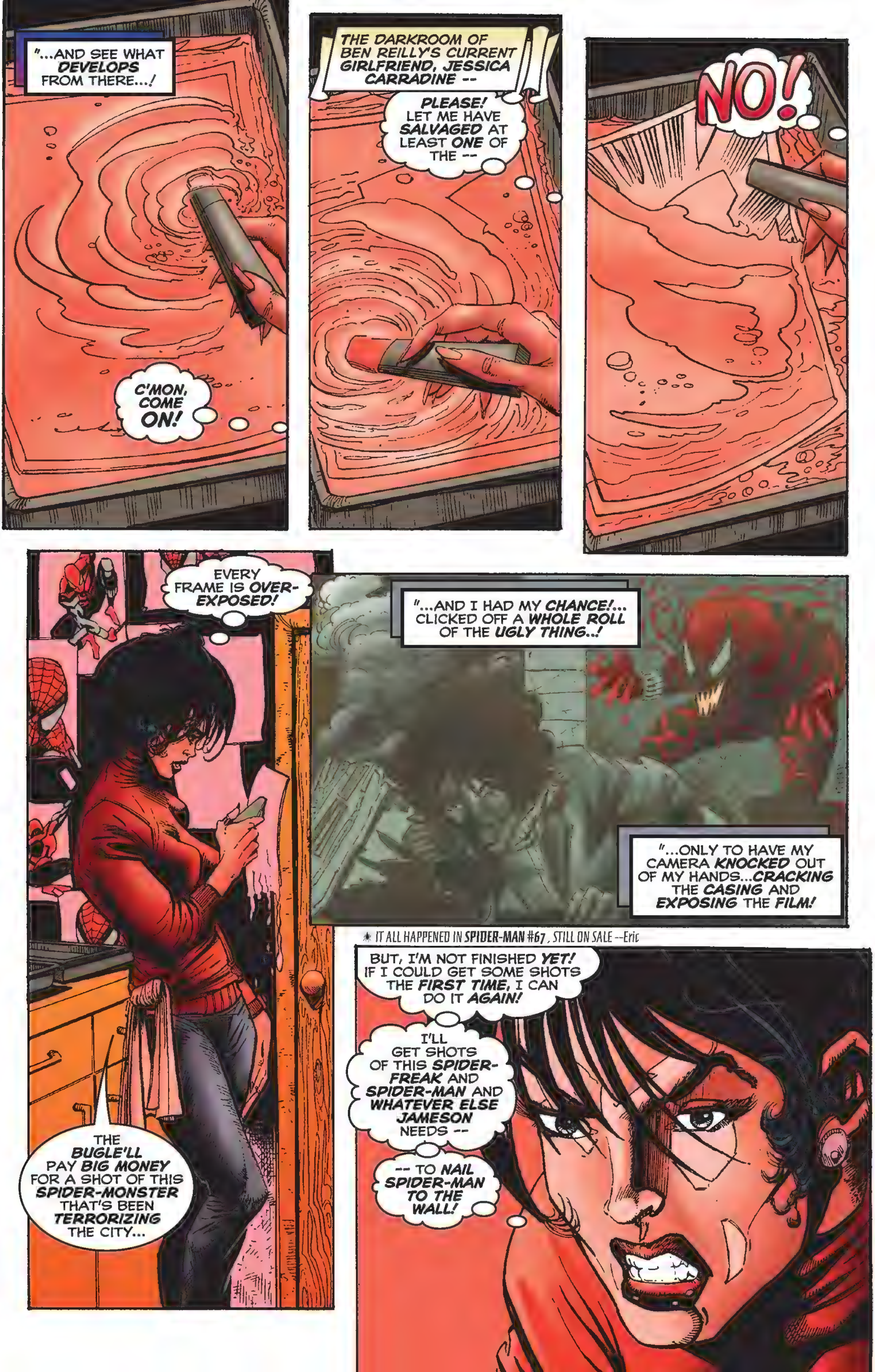

YOU GOTTA HAVE MORE DEN DIS, MAN --
MICHAEL..?
-- AN' I'M T'INKIN' WHAT YOU GOT IS RIGHT HERE!
PLEASE -- JUST LEAVE US ALONE.
HEY, YOU!--
-- BAG OF PUS!--
-- LOSE THE BLADE AND APOLOGIZE --
WHAT THE --?!
-- AND DO IT NOW --
-- WHILE YOU STILL HAVE BOTH LUNGS!
CUT THEM!
TEAR THEM!
GRIND THEM!

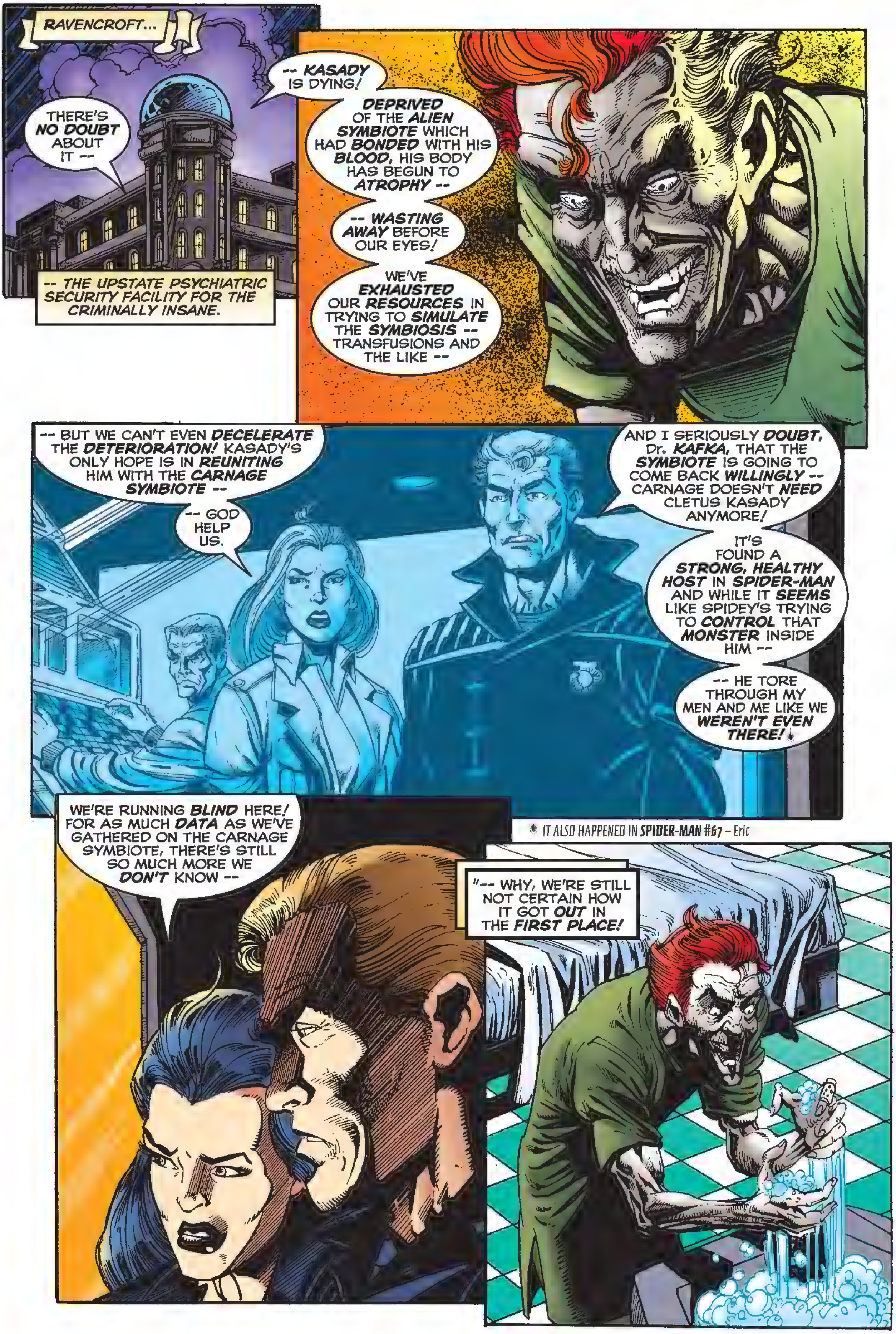

WHAT... IS THAT!?
IT'S COME TO GET US!
NOT ME, MAN! NOT ME!
SHWNUKRUNCH
I DON'T WANT YOU --
-- JUST PIECES OF YOU!
NOOOOOOO!
SKKRAPP
SMELL THE BLOOD!
N-N-N-NOO-
FEEL THE BLOOD!
THE VISION HITS HIM LIKE A SLEDGEHAMMER TO THE GUT --
-- THE ALLEY BECOMING A SLAUGHTERHOUSE --


-- HE STANDS OVER THE BODIES -- SPATTERED IN BLOOD AND GORE --
-- MESENTERY AND MUSCLE --
-- SURROUNDED BY THE HORROR! BUT THE WORST OF IT IS NOT IN WHAT HE SEES, BUT IN WHAT HE FEELS --
-- AS HE REALIZES THAT A PART OF HIM WANTS THIS!
NO!
NO!
NO!
HUGNF!
GO! GO WHILE YOU CAN!
THAT VISION -- SO REAL! I COULD FEEL IT! TASTE IT! THE SYMBIOTE'S INFLUENCE OVER ME IS MUCH STRONGER THAN I --
-- Eh?!
I SAID GO!
I CAN'T KEEP THIS UP! I THOUGHT THAT I COULD KEEP CARNAGE TRAPPED INSIDE ME --
-- BUT HE'S AFFECTING ME -- TWISTING ME!
I NEED HELP -- NEED TO GET SOME ANSWERS FROM THE ONE PERSON WHO CAN HELP ME..!

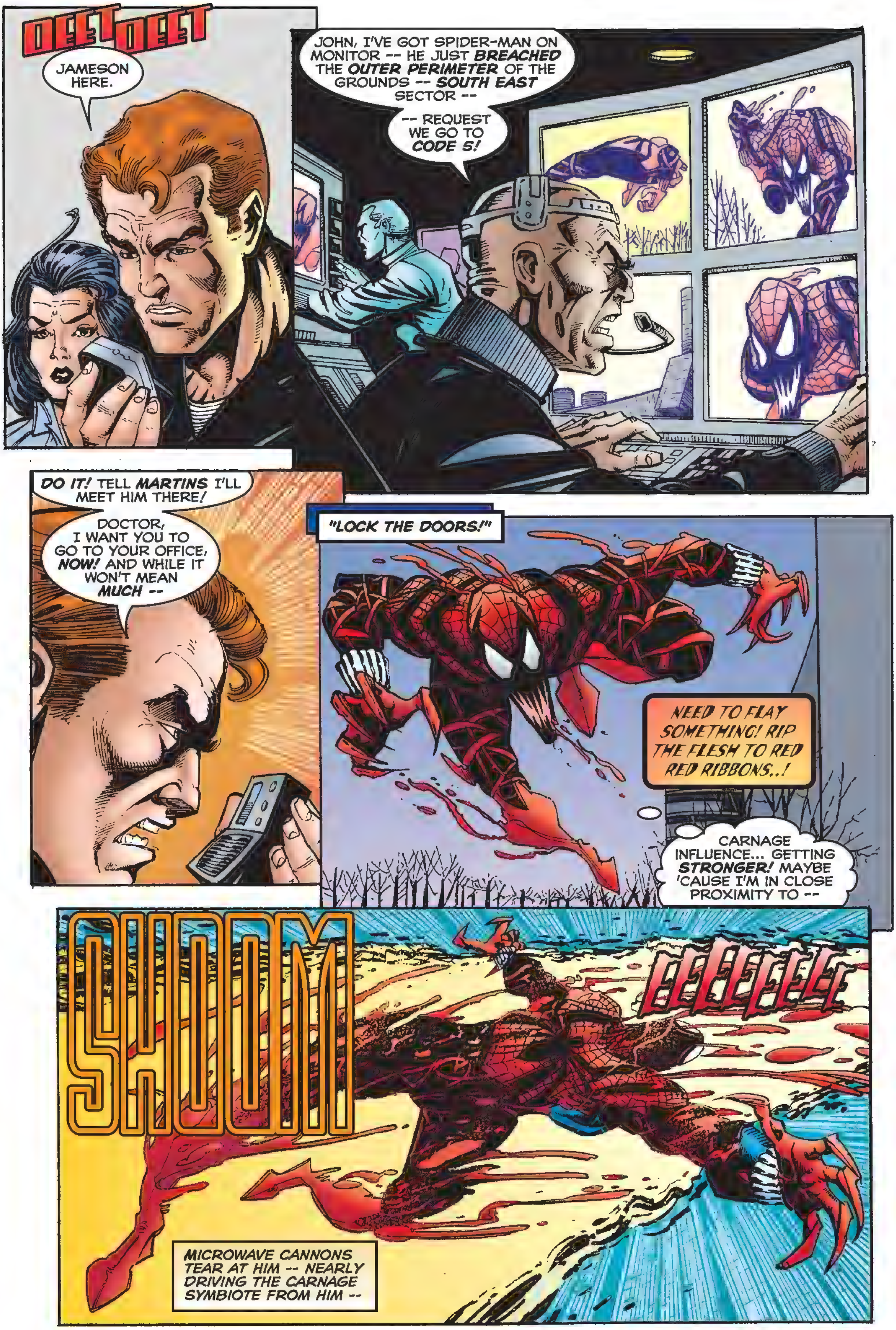

I CAME HERE FOR SOME ANSWERS... MOSTLY BECAUSE I'VE SUDDENLY FOUND MY LIFE FULL OF QUESTIONS!
AFTER SURVIVING THE BOMBSHELL THAT WAS DROPPED ON ME SEVERAL MONTHS AGO --
-- THAT I WAS NOT THE REAL PETER PARKER, THE REAL SPIDER-MAN -- THAT I WAS ACTUALLY THE CLONE OF THE ORIGINAL --
MARY-JANE AND I RODE OFF INTO THE SUNSET, EAGER TO START A NEW LIFE, A NORMAL LIFE --
AND IT COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN MORE NORMAL. I EVEN LOST MY POWERS! I'M A NORMAL GUY!
AS A RESULT OF EVENTS IN SPIDER-MAN: THE FINAL ADVENTURE -- Ergonomic Eric.
BUT, NOW, SOME RECENT DEVELOPMENTS -- NAMELY THE DISCOVERY OF A SKELETON THAT SHOULD, OR COULD, ONLY BELONG TO SPIDER-MAN --
-- HAS GOT ME WONDERING HOW MUCH OF THAT STORY IS TRUE... IF ANY OF IT!
AND MORE IMPORTANTLY -- IF I'M NOT THE CLONE --
-- WHAT AM I?!
A QUESTION THAT I THINK CAN BE ANSWERED BY BEN'S GENETICIST FRIEND, SEWARD TRAINER --
-- WHO JUST HAPPENS TO HAVE MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED FROM HIS HOSPITAL ROOM!
IN CHECKING THE HOSPITAL RECORDS, HOWEVER, I FOUND OUT THAT, WHILE SEWARD SIGNED HIMSELF OUT OF THE HOSPITAL --
-- IT WAS THIS COMPANY -- MULTIVEX -- THAT PAID SEWARD'S HOSPITAL BILL!
multiVEX
"FINDING THE RIGHT ANSWERS LIES IN ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS."
SO HERE I AM, PLAYING A HUNCH...
HI. I'M PETER PARKER FROM THE DAILY BUGLE -- I'M HERE TO GET SOME PHOTOS OF A Dr. SEWARD TRAINER...
...THEY'RE TO ACCOMPANY AN ARTICLE WE'RE DOING ON HIM FOR OUR SUNDAY SUPPLEMENT.
CERTAINLY Mr. PARKER, I'LL LET Dr. TRAINER KNOW YOU'RE HERE.
WELL, WHADDAYA KNOW -- MY HUNCH PAID OFF! NOW I'LL GET SOME ANS --

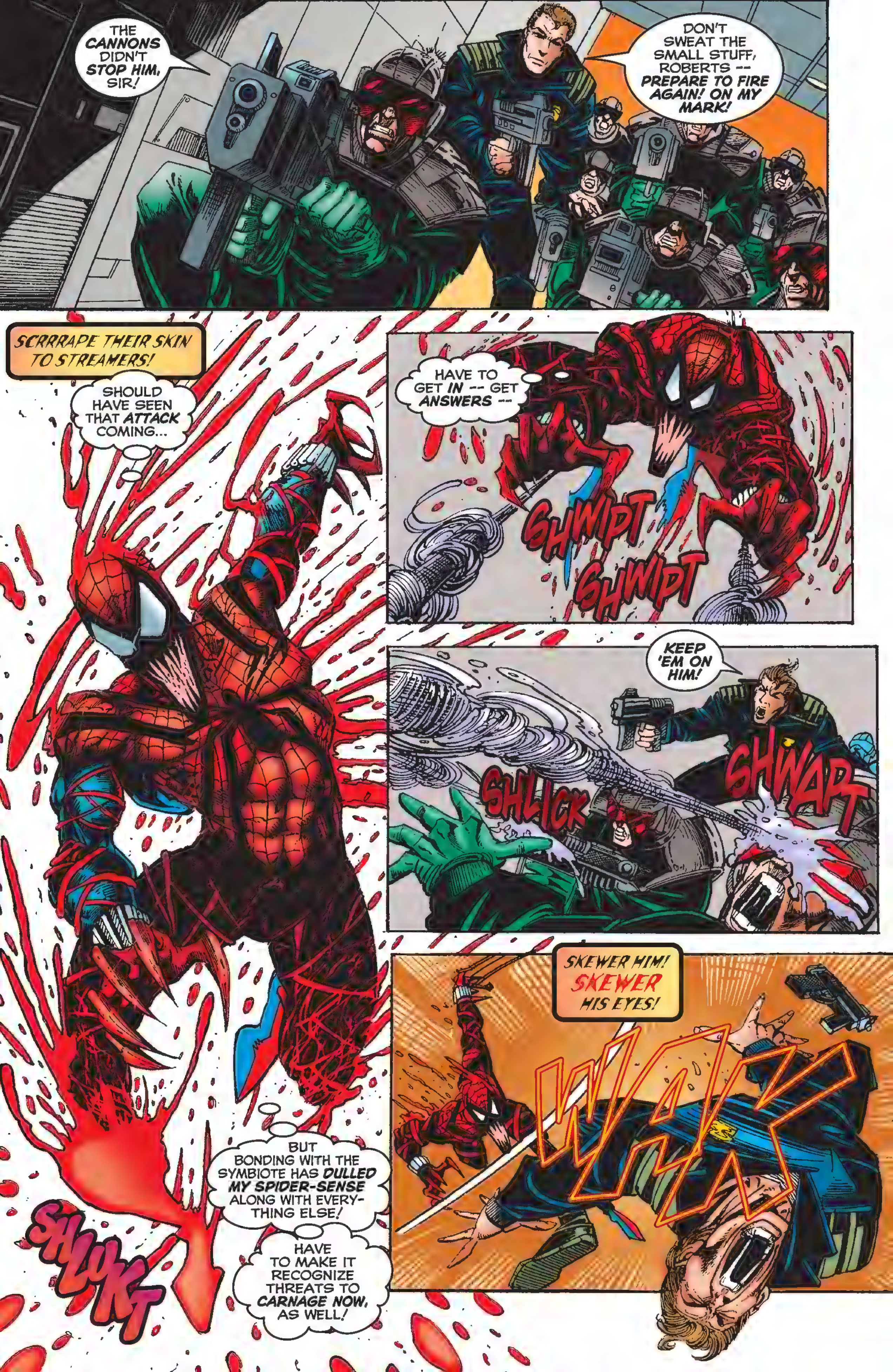

I'M SORRY, Mr. PARKER -- THERE IS NO Dr. TRAINER EMPLOYED HERE OR AT ANY OF OUR OTHER FACILITIES --
BUT --
-- I'LL HAVE TO ASK YOU TO VACATE THE PREMISES AND ALSO THAT YOU REFRAIN FROM TAKING ANY PHOTOGRAPHS.
WAITAMINNIT! JUST A SECOND AGO, YOU KNEW SEWARD TRAINER! YOU WERE GOING TO GET HIM! WHAT --
THIS WAY, PAL.
EASY.
AND --
multiVEX
"FINDING THE RIGHT ANSWERS LIES IN ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS."
NOW I KNOW SEWARD'S AVOIDING ME... BUT WHY?!?
WHAT DOES HE KNOW... AND WHY IS HE HIDING..?
ELSEWHERE...
SO, Dr. TRAINER... OUR... FRIENDS PROVE TO BE VERY RESOURCEFUL... BUT I'D PREFER YOU HAD PRIVACY TO CONTINUE YOUR WORK...
...WE'LL HAVE TO SEE TO IT THAT THEY HAVE OTHER MATTERS WITH WHICH TO OCCUPY THEIR TIME...

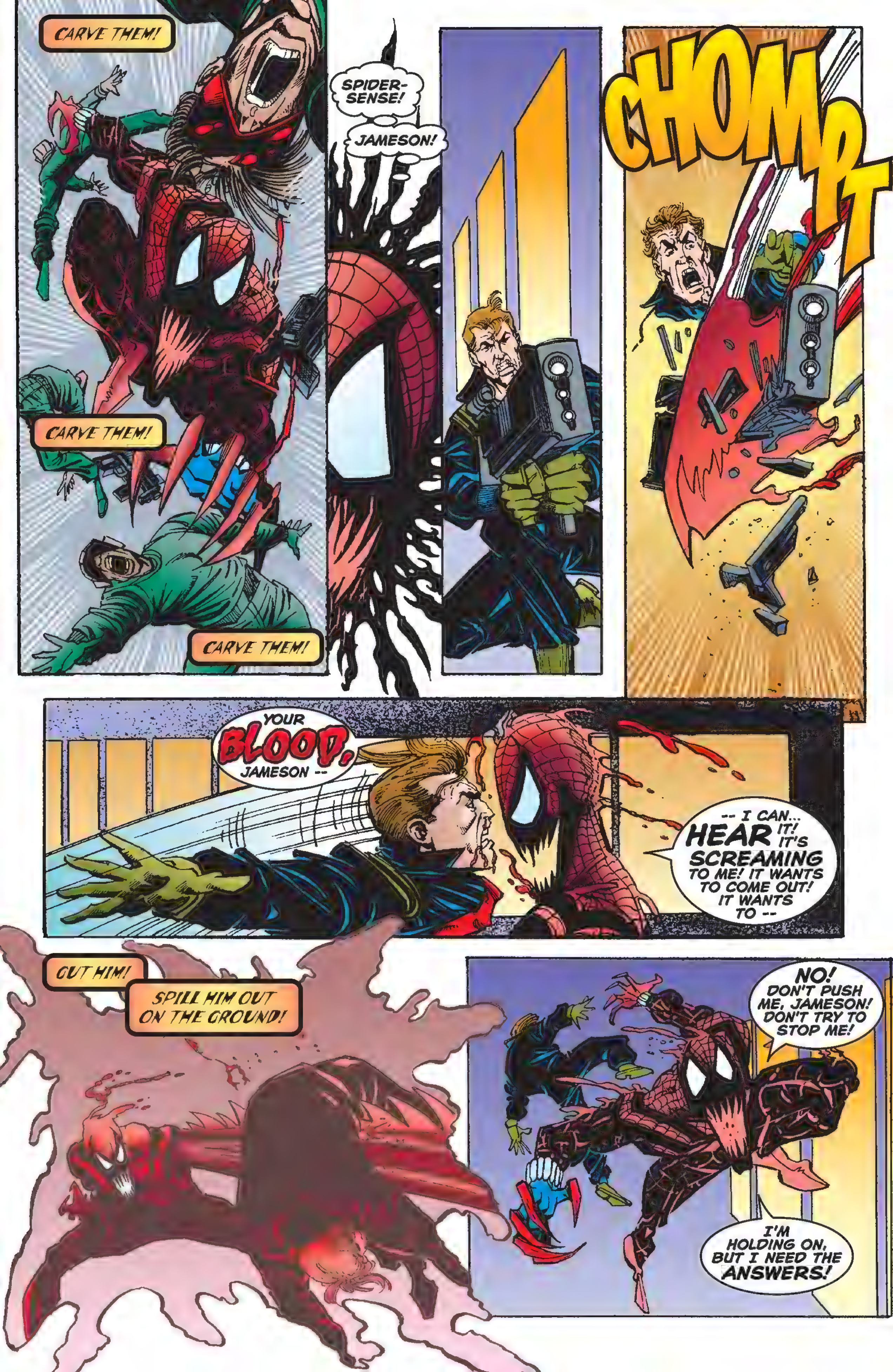

"...AND SEE WHAT DEVELOPS FROM THERE...!
C'MON, COME ON!
THE DARKROOM OF BEN REILLY'S CURRENT GIRLFRIEND, JESSICA CARRADINE --
PLEASE! LET ME HAVE SALVAGED AT LEAST ONE OF THE --
NO!
EVERY FRAME IS OVER-EXPOSED!
THE BUGLE'LL PAY BIG MONEY FOR A SHOT OF THIS SPIDER-MONSTER THAT'S BEEN TERRORIZING THE CITY...
"...AND I HAD MY CHANCE!... CLICKED OFF A WHOLE ROLL OF THE UGLY THING..!
"...ONLY TO HAVE MY CAMERA KNOCKED OUT OF MY HANDS...CRACKING THE CASING AND EXPOSING THE FILM!
* IT ALL HAPPENED IN SPIDER-MAN #67, STILL ON SALE --Eric
BUT, I'M NOT FINISHED YET! IF I COULD GET SOME SHOTS THE FIRST TIME, I CAN DO IT AGAIN!
I'LL GET SHOTS OF THIS SPIDER-FREAK AND SPIDER-MAN AND WHATEVER ELSE JAMESON NEEDS --
-- TO NAIL SPIDER-MAN TO THE WALL!

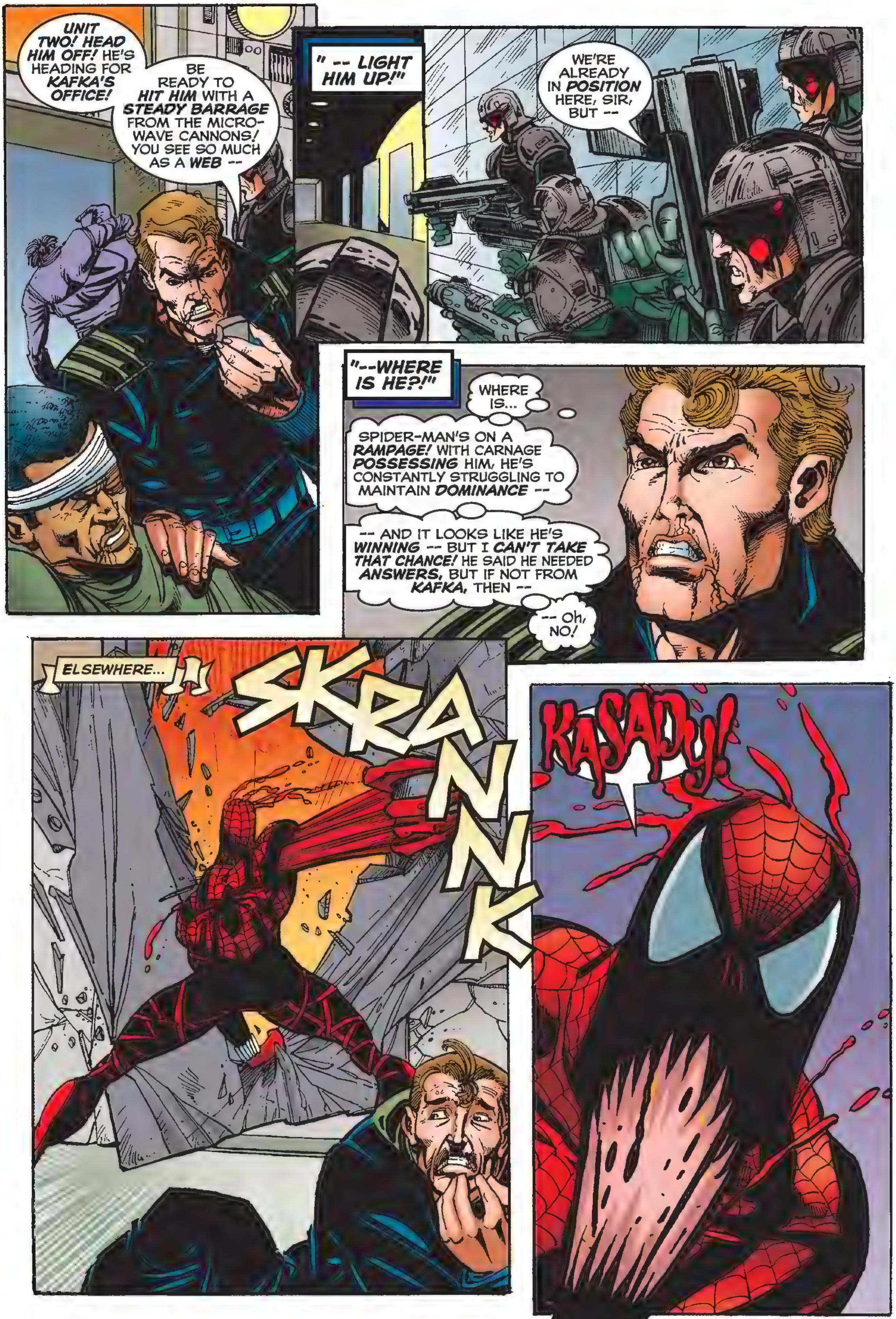

RAVENCROFT...
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT --
-- THE UPSTATE PSYCHIATRIC SECURITY FACILITY FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE.
-- KASADY IS DYING!
DEPRIVED OF THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE WHICH HAD BONDED WITH HIS BLOOD, HIS BODY HAS BEGUN TO ATROPHY --
-- WASTING AWAY BEFORE OUR EYES!
WE'VE EXHAUSTED OUR RESOURCES IN TRYING TO SIMULATE THE SYMBIOSIS -- TRANSFUSIONS AND THE LIKE --
-- BUT WE CAN'T EVEN DECELERATE THE DETERIORATION! KASADY'S ONLY HOPE IS IN REUNITING HIM WITH THE CARNAGE SYMBIOTE --
-- GOD HELP US.
AND I SERIOUSLY DOUBT, Dr. KAFKA, THAT THE SYMBIOTE IS GOING TO COME BACK WILLINGLY -- CARNAGE DOESN'T NEED CLETUS KASADY ANYMORE!
IT'S FOUND A STRONG, HEALTHY HOST IN SPIDER-MAN AND WHILE IT SEEMS LIKE SPIDEY'S TRYING TO CONTROL THAT MONSTER INSIDE HIM --
-- HE TORE THROUGH MY MEN AND ME LIKE WE WEREN'T EVEN THERE!*
WE'RE RUNNING BLIND HERE! FOR AS MUCH DATA AS WE'VE GATHERED ON THE CARNAGE SYMBIOTE, THERE'S STILL SO MUCH MORE WE DON'T KNOW --
"-- WHY, WE'RE STILL NOT CERTAIN HOW IT GOT OUT IN THE FIRST PLACE!

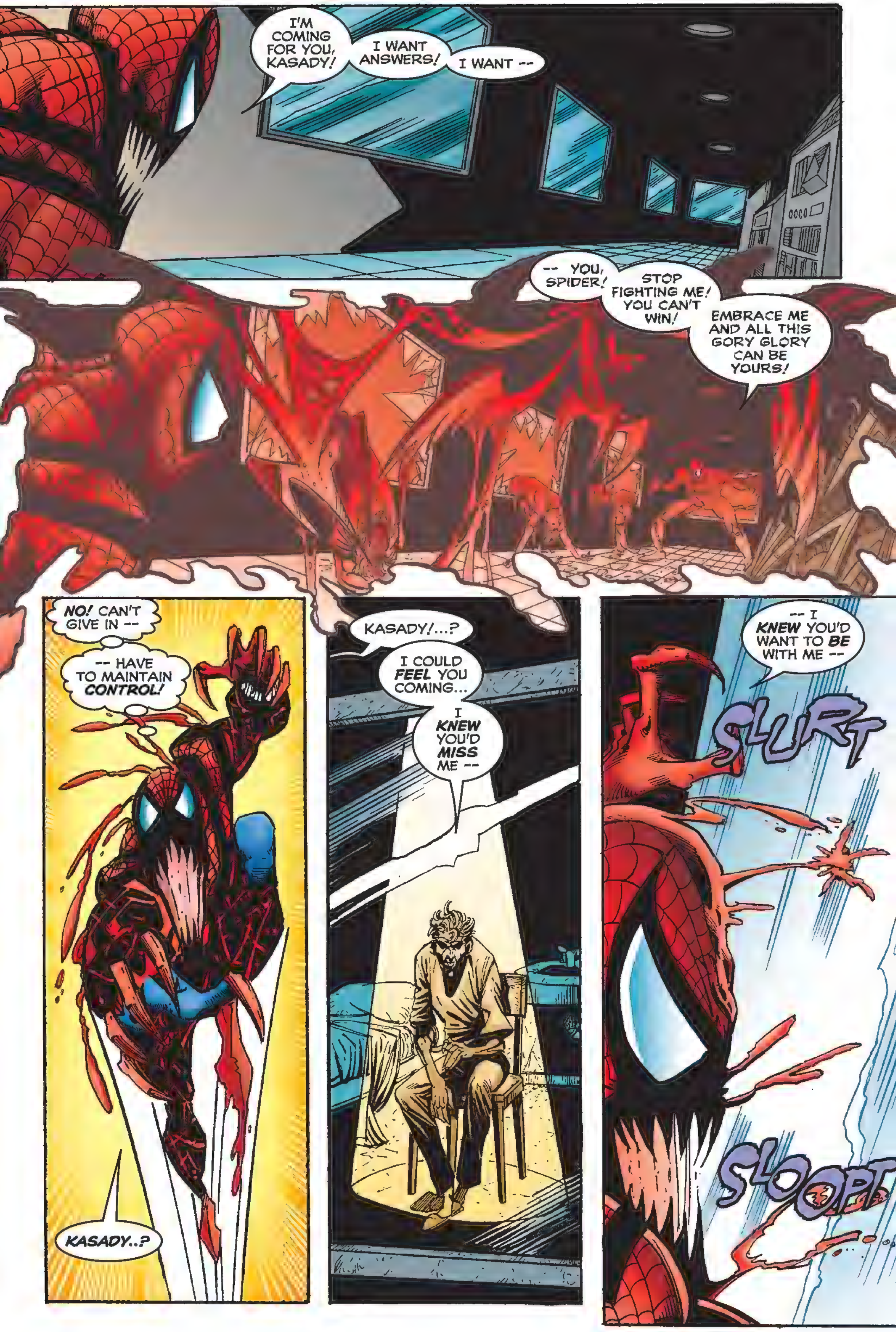
* IT ALSO HAPPENED IN **SPIDER-MAN #67** – Eric

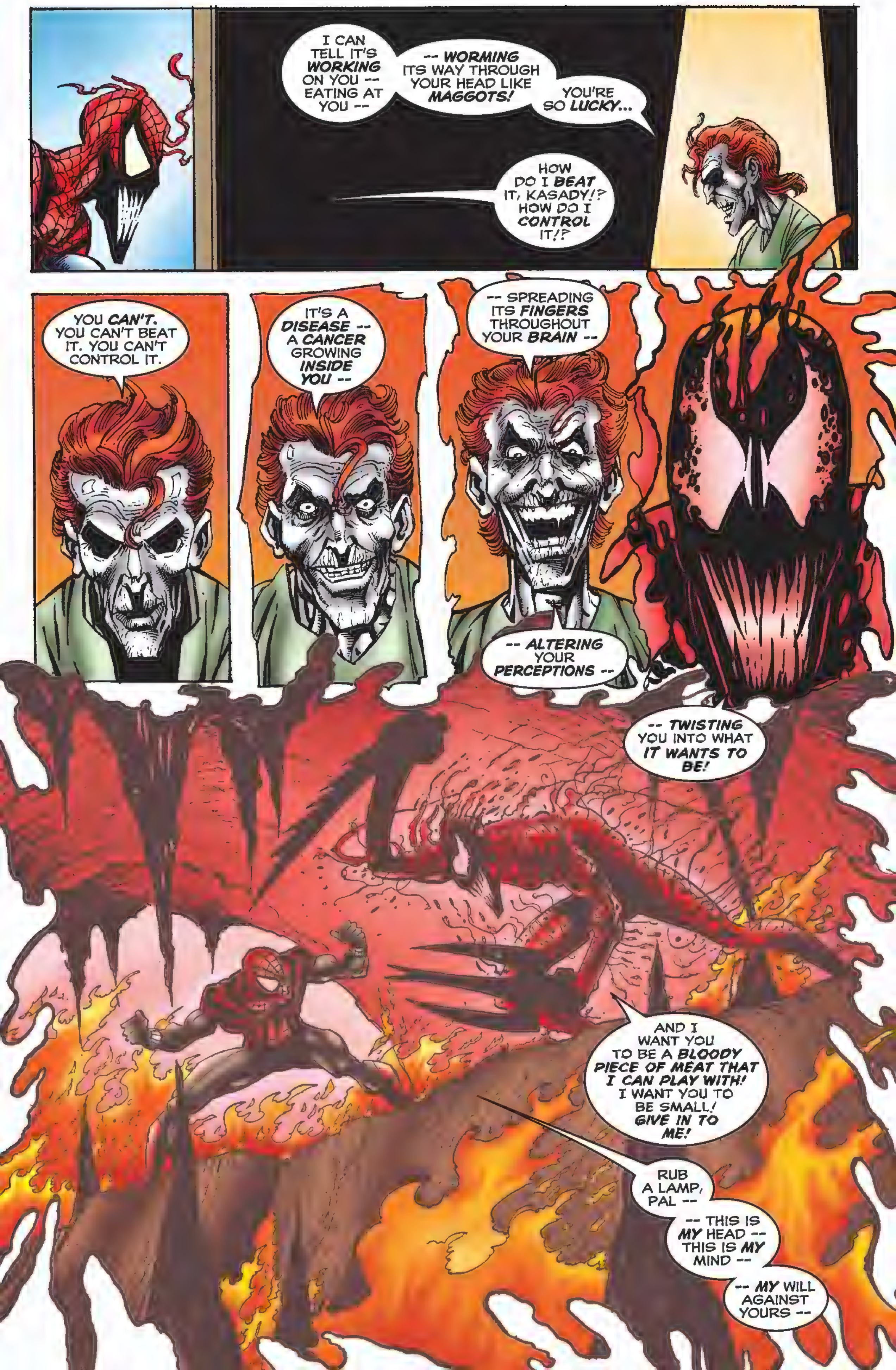

DEET DEET
JAMESON HERE.
JOHN, I'VE GOT SPIDER-MAN ON MONITOR -- HE JUST BREACHED THE OUTER PERIMETER OF THE GROUNDS -- SOUTH EAST SECTOR --
-- REQUEST WE GO TO CODE 5!
DO IT! TELL MARTINS I'LL MEET HIM THERE!
DOCTOR, I WANT YOU TO GO TO YOUR OFFICE, NOW! AND WHILE IT WON'T MEAN MUCH --
"LOCK THE DOORS!"
NEED TO FLAY SOMETHING! RIP THE FLESH TO RED RED RIBBONS..!
CARNAGE INFLUENCE... GETTING STRONGER! MAYBE 'CAUSE I'M IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO --
SHOOM
EEEEEEE
MICROWAVE CANNONS TEAR AT HIM -- NEARLY DRIVING THE CARNAGE SYMBIOTE FROM HIM --

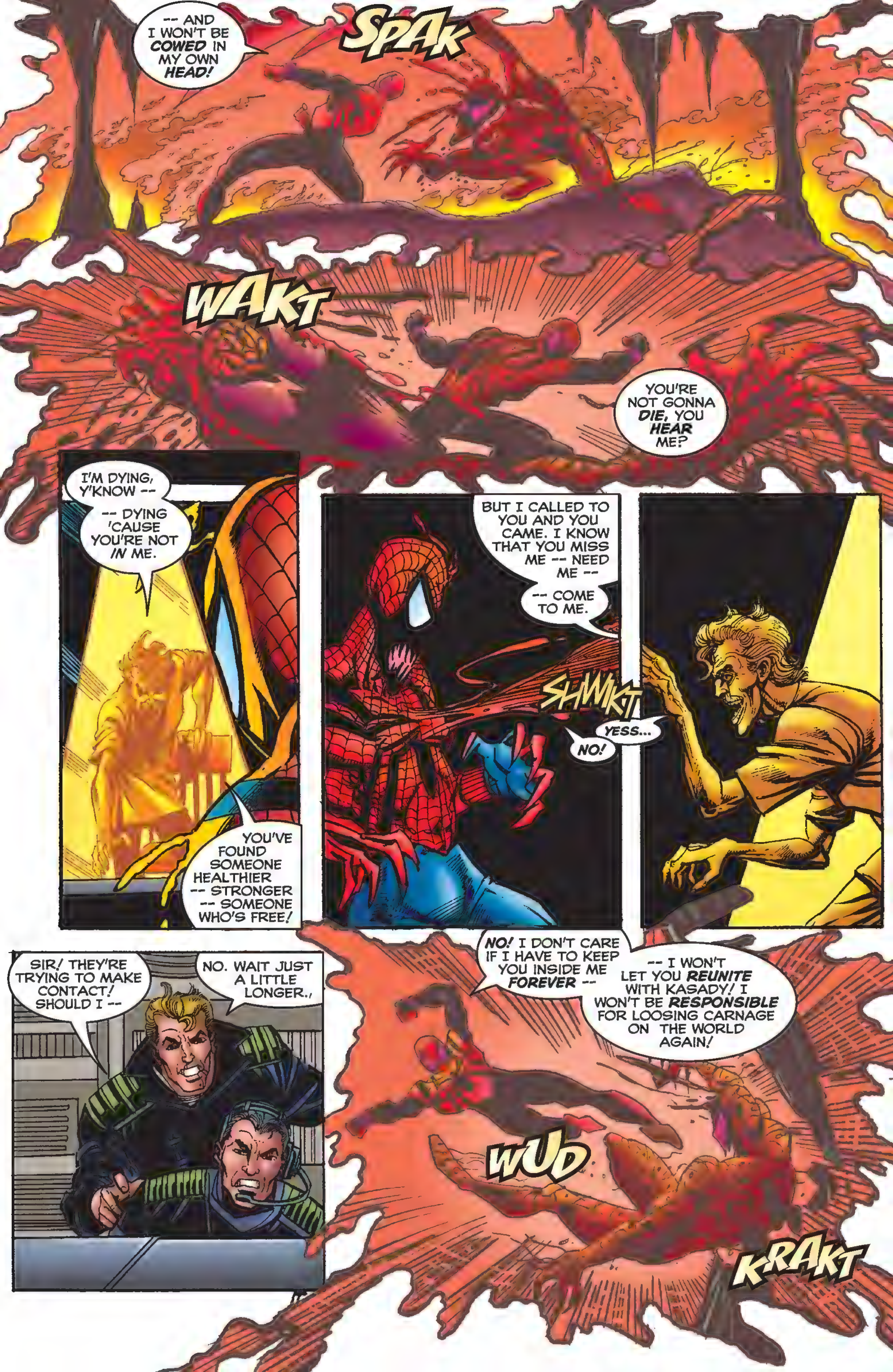

THE *CANNONS* DIDN'T *STOP HIM*, SIR!
DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF, ROBERTS -- *PREPARE TO FIRE AGAIN! ON MY MARK!*
SCRRRAPE THEIR SKIN TO STREAMERS!
SHOULD HAVE SEEN THAT *ATTACK* COMING...
HAVE TO GET *IN* -- GET *ANSWERS* --
SHWIPT
SHWIPT
KEEP 'EM ON HIM!
SHLICK
SHWART
BUT BONDING WITH THE SYMBIOTE HAS *DULLED MY SPIDER-SENSE* ALONG WITH EVERYTHING ELSE!
HAVE TO MAKE IT RECOGNIZE THREATS TO *CARNAGE NOW*, AS WELL!
SHLUKT
SKEWER HIM! SKEWER HIS EYES!
WAK

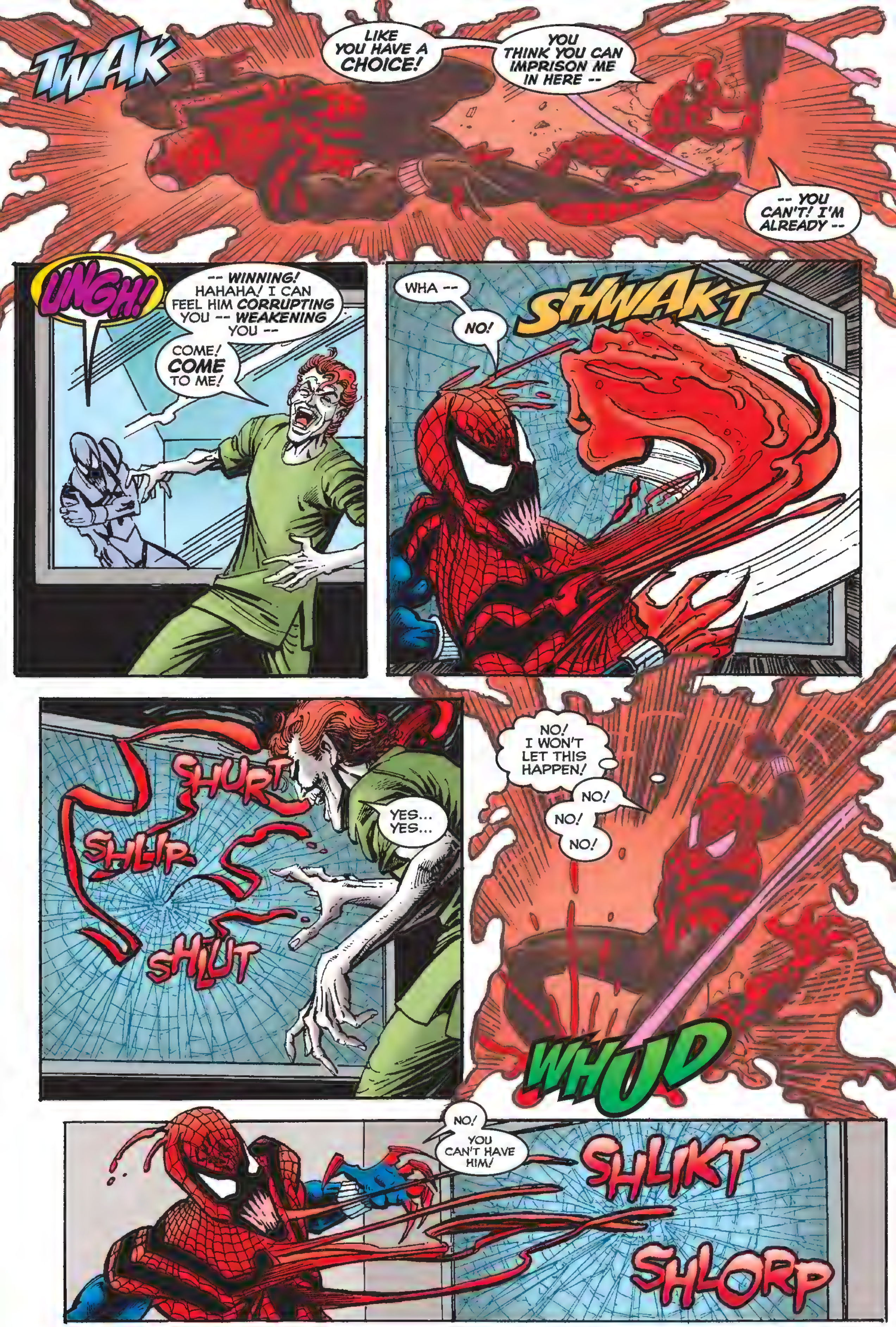

CARVE THEM!
CARVE THEM!
CARVE THEM!
SPIDER-SENSE!
JAMESON!
CHOMPT
YOUR BLOOD, JAMESON --
-- I CAN... HEAR IT! IT'S SCREAMING TO ME! IT WANTS TO COME OUT! IT WANTS TO --
CUT HIM!
SPILL HIM OUT ON THE GROUND!
NO! DON'T PUSH ME, JAMESON! DON'T TRY TO STOP ME!
I'M HOLDING ON, BUT I NEED THE ANSWERS!

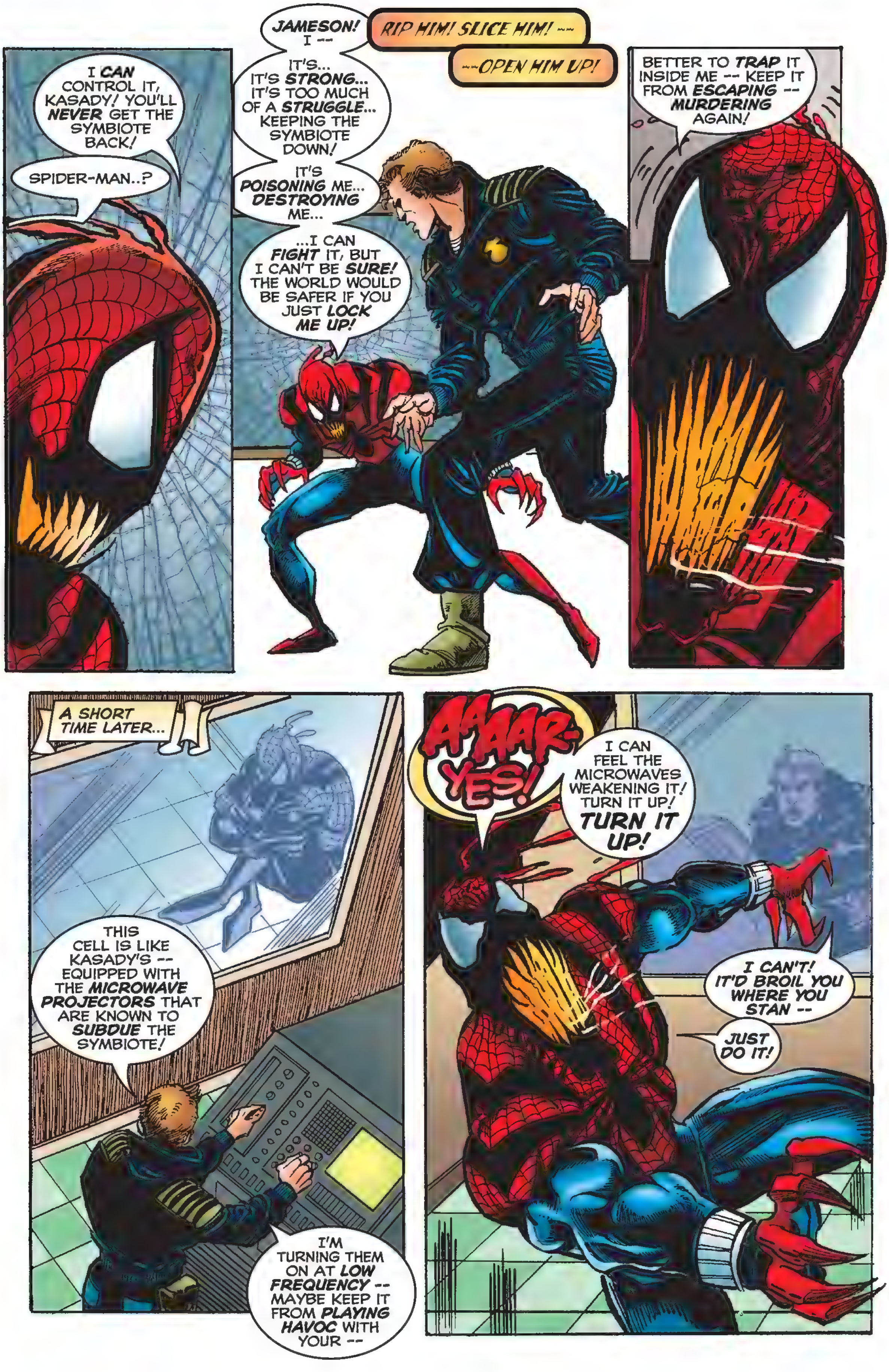

UNIT TWO! HEAD HIM OFF! HE'S HEADING FOR KAFKA'S OFFICE!
BE READY TO HIT HIM WITH A STEADY BARRAGE FROM THE MICRO-WAVE CANNONS! YOU SEE SO MUCH AS A WEB --
" -- LIGHT HIM UP!"
WE'RE ALREADY IN POSITION HERE, SIR, BUT --
"--WHERE IS HE?!"
WHERE IS...
SPIDER-MAN'S ON A RAMPAGE! WITH CARNAGE POSSESSING HIM, HE'S CONSTANTLY STRUGGLING TO MAINTAIN DOMINANCE --
-- AND IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S WINNING -- BUT I CAN'T TAKE THAT CHANCE! HE SAID HE NEEDED ANSWERS, BUT IF NOT FROM KAFKA, THEN --
-- Oh, NO!
ELSEWHERE...
SKRANNK
KASADY!

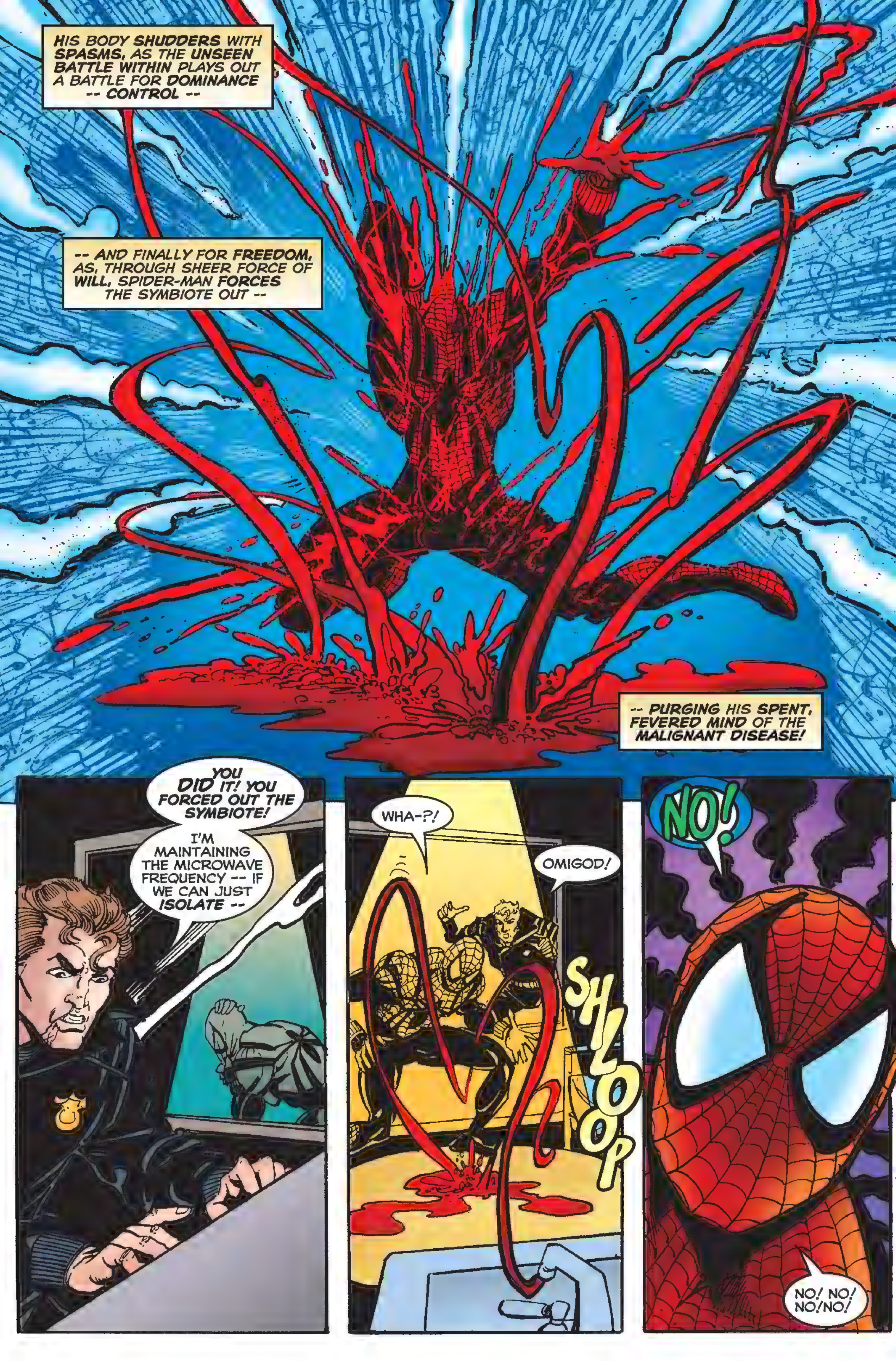

I'M COMING FOR YOU, KASADY!
I WANT ANSWERS!
I WANT --
-- YOU, SPIDER!
STOP FIGHTING ME! YOU CAN'T WIN!
EMBRACE ME AND ALL THIS GORY GLORY CAN BE YOURS!
NO! CAN'T GIVE IN --
-- HAVE TO MAINTAIN CONTROL!
KASADY..?
KASADY!...?
I COULD FEEL YOU COMING...
I KNEW YOU'D MISS ME --
-- I KNEW YOU'D WANT TO BE WITH ME --
SLURT
SLOOPT

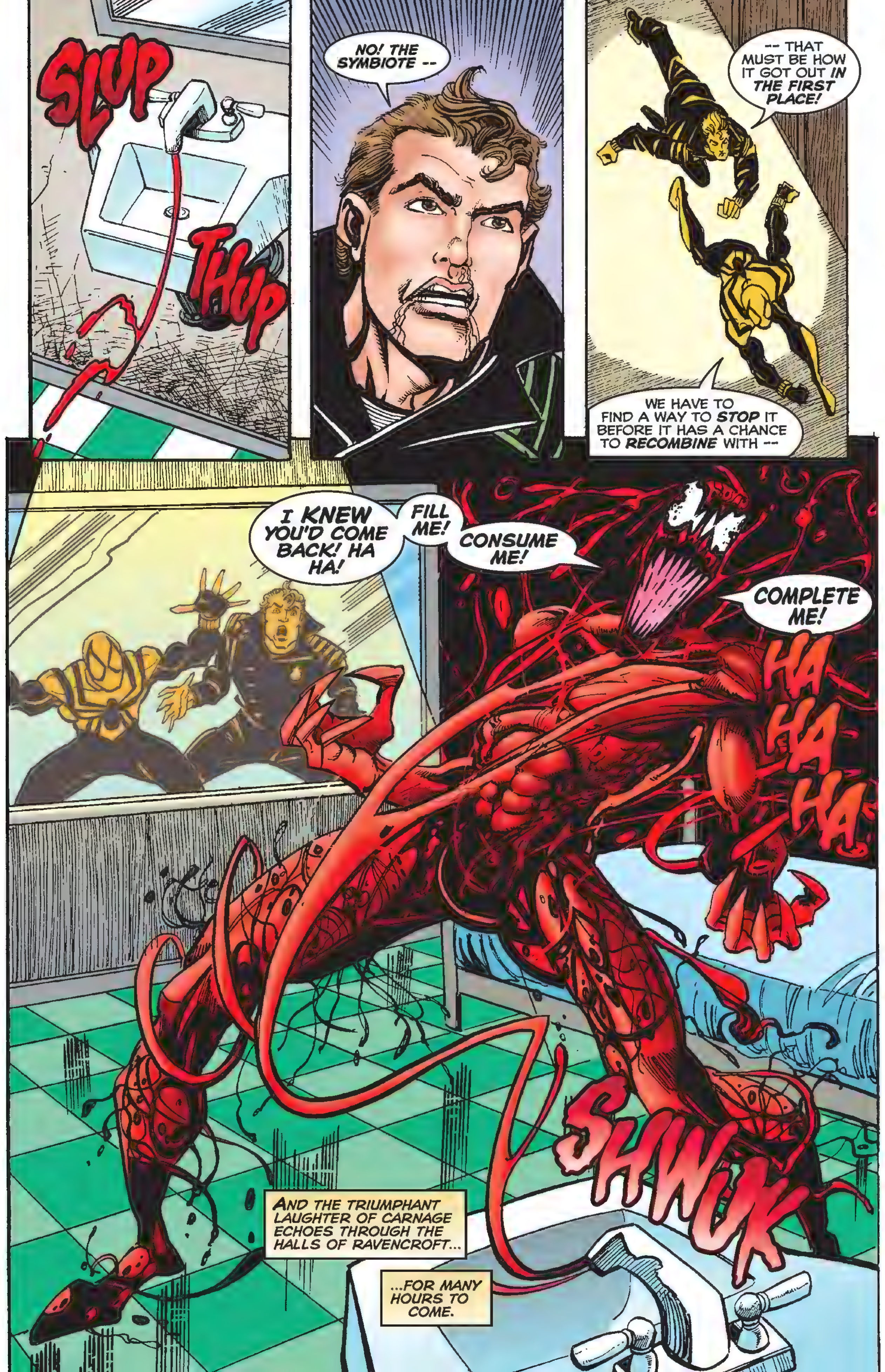

I CAN TELL IT'S **WORKING** ON YOU -- EATING AT YOU --
-- **WORMING** ITS WAY THROUGH YOUR HEAD LIKE **MAGGOTS!**
YOU'RE SO **LUCKY...**
HOW DO I **BEAT** IT, KASADY!? HOW DO I **CONTROL** IT!?
YOU **CAN'T.** YOU CAN'T BEAT IT. YOU CAN'T CONTROL IT.
IT'S A **DISEASE** -- A **CANCER** GROWING **INSIDE YOU** --
-- SPREADING ITS **FINGERS** THROUGHOUT YOUR **BRAIN** --
-- **ALTERING** YOUR **PERCEPTIONS** --
-- **TWISTING** YOU INTO WHAT **IT WANTS TO BE!**
AND I WANT YOU TO BE A **BLOODY PIECE OF MEAT THAT I CAN PLAY WITH!** I WANT YOU TO BE SMALL! **GIVE IN TO ME!**
RUB A LAMP, PAL --
-- THIS IS **MY** HEAD -- THIS IS **MY** MIND --
-- **MY** WILL AGAINST YOURS --

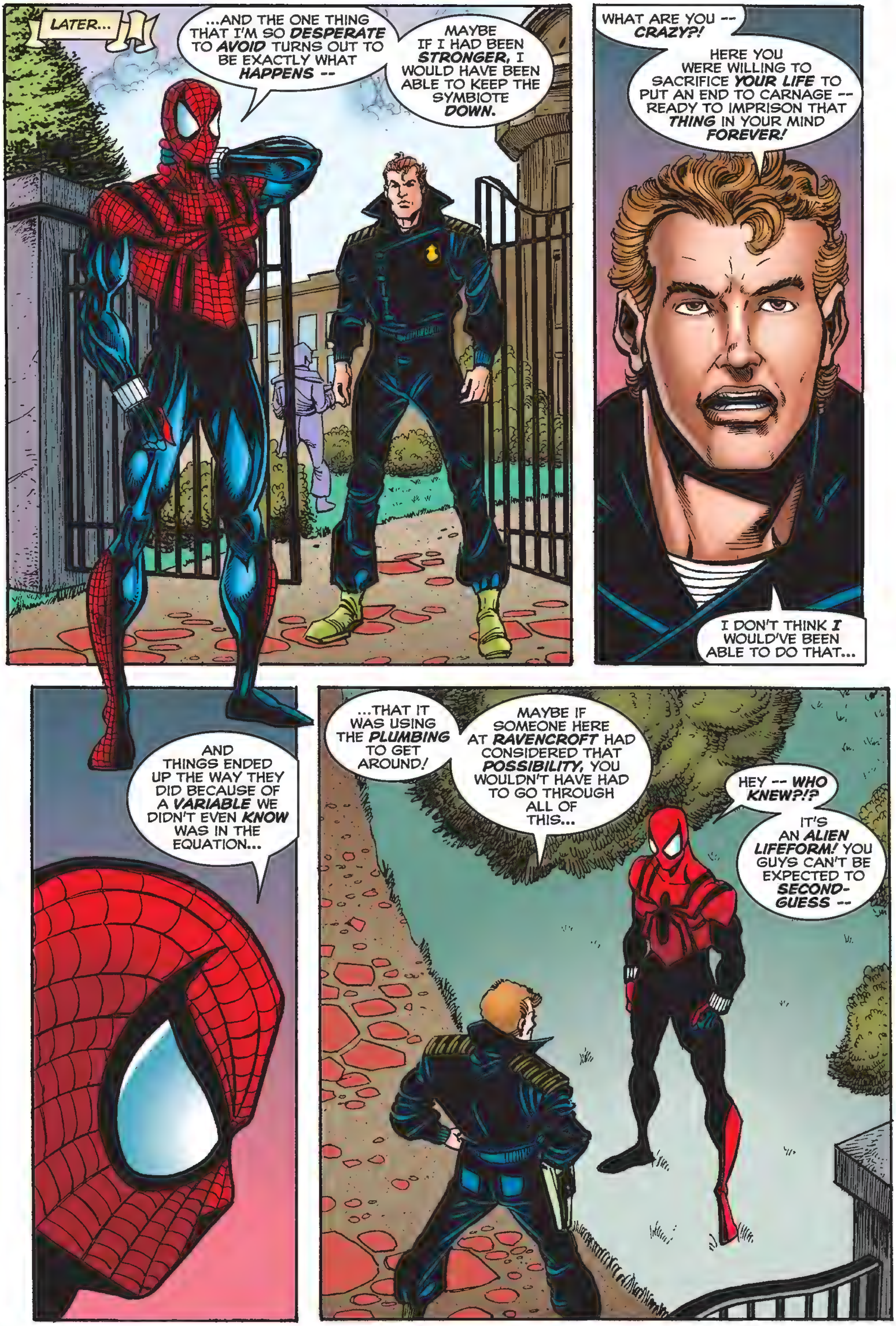

-- AND I WON'T BE COWED IN MY OWN HEAD!
SPAK
WAKT
YOU'RE NOT GONNA DIE, YOU HEAR ME?
I'M DYING, Y'KNOW --
-- DYING 'CAUSE YOU'RE NOT IN ME.
YOU'VE FOUND SOMEONE HEALTHIER -- STRONGER -- SOMEONE WHO'S FREE!
BUT I CALLED TO YOU AND YOU CAME. I KNOW THAT YOU MISS ME -- NEED ME --
-- COME TO ME.
SHWKT
YESS...
NO!
SIR! THEY'RE TRYING TO MAKE CONTACT! SHOULD I --
NO. WAIT JUST A LITTLE LONGER..
NO! I DON'T CARE IF I HAVE TO KEEP YOU INSIDE ME FOREVER --
-- I WON'T LET YOU REUNITE WITH KASADY! I WON'T BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOOSING CARNAGE ON THE WORLD AGAIN!
WUD
KRAKT

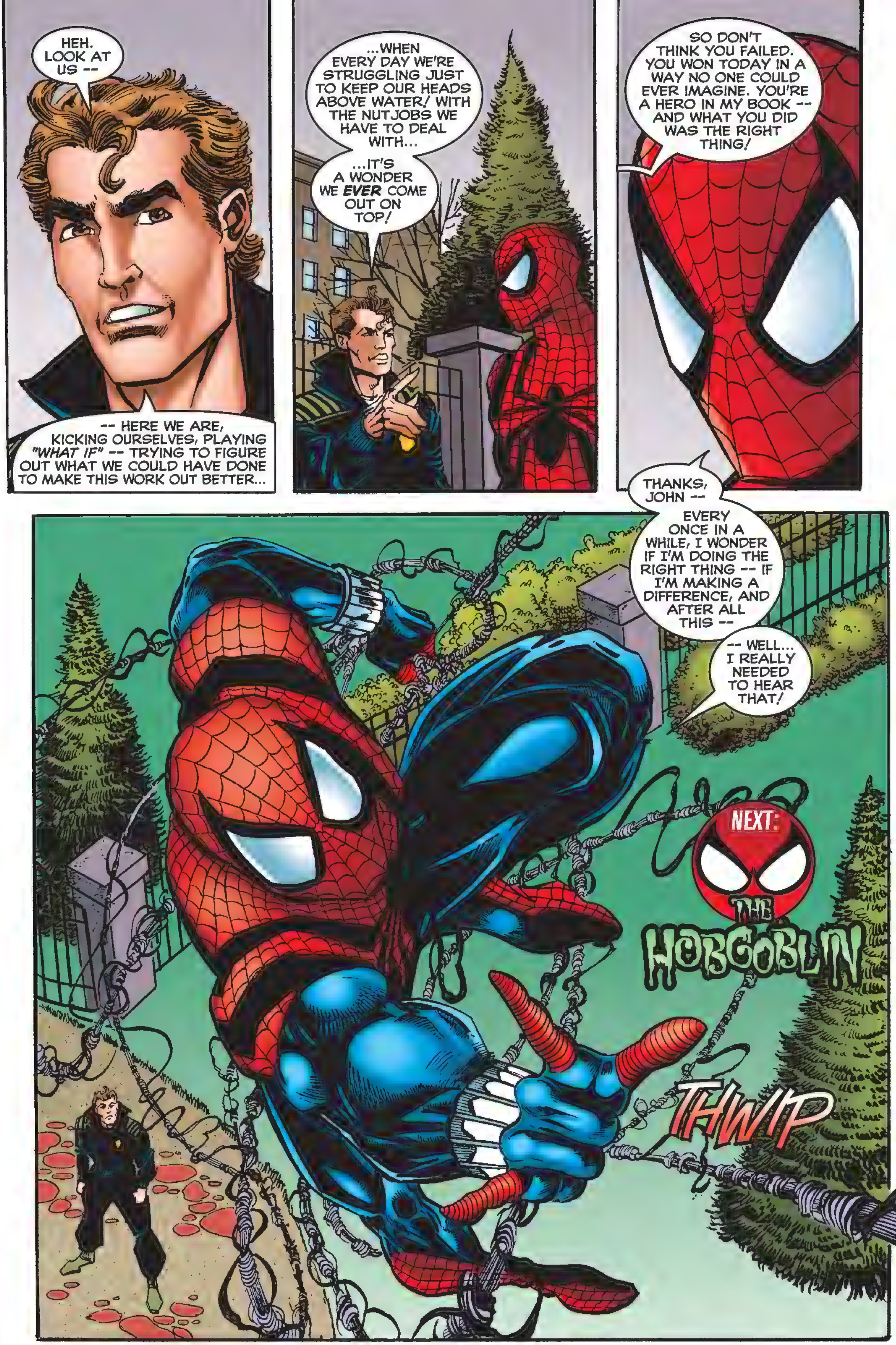

TWAK
LIKE YOU HAVE A CHOICE!
YOU THINK YOU CAN IMPRISON ME IN HERE --
-- YOU CAN'T! I'M ALREADY --
UNGH!
-- WINNING! HAHAHA! I CAN FEEL HIM CORRUPTING YOU -- WEAKENING YOU --
COME! COME TO ME!
WHA --
NO!
SHWAKT
SHURT
SHLIP
SHLUT
YES... YES...
NO! I WON'T LET THIS HAPPEN!
NO!
NO!
NO!
WHUD
NO! YOU CAN'T HAVE HIM!
SHLIKT
SHLORP

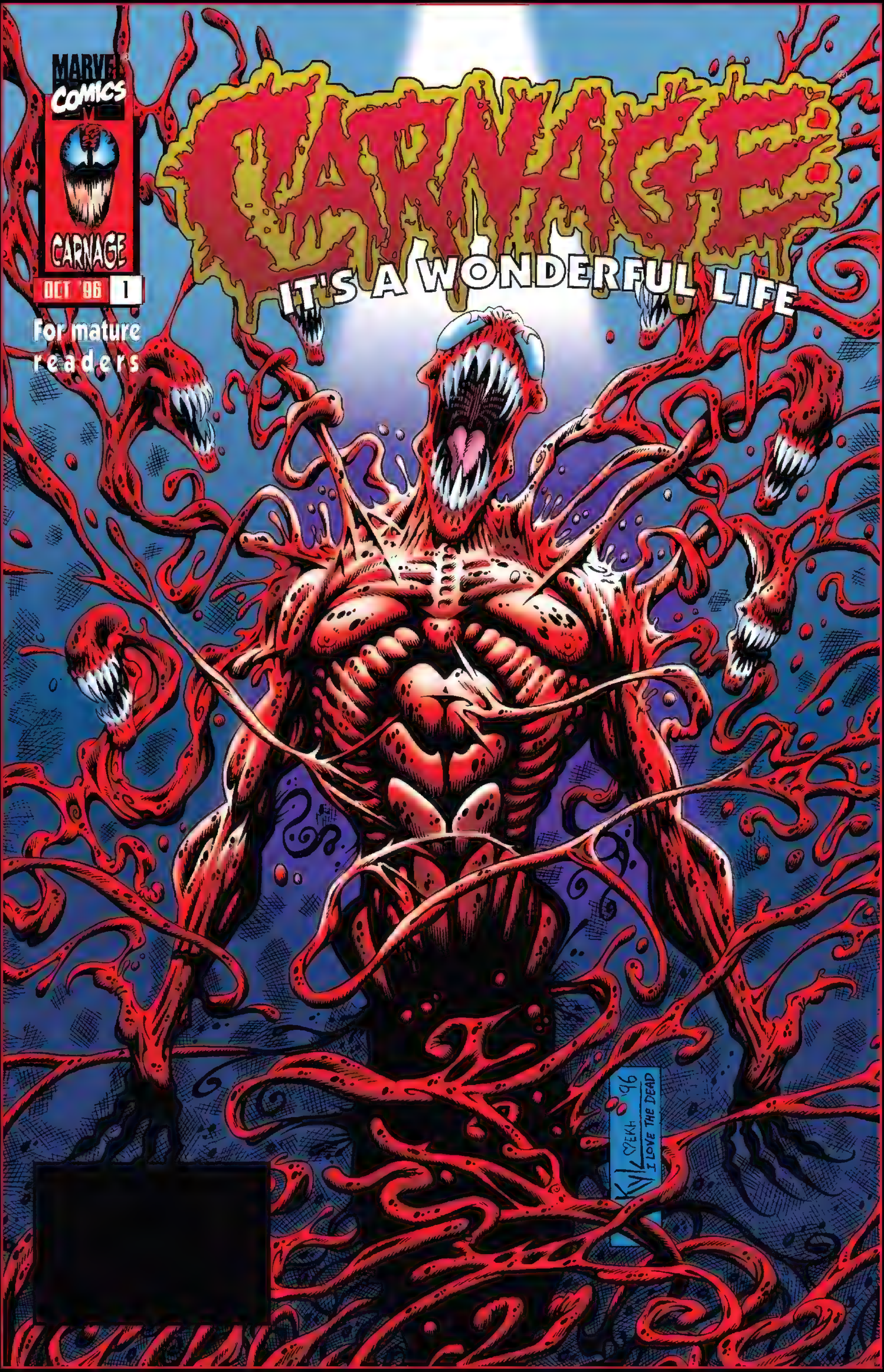

I CAN CONTROL IT, KASADY! YOU'LL NEVER GET THE SYMBIOTE BACK!
SPIDER-MAN..?
JAMESON! I --
RIP HIM! SLICE HIM! --
--OPEN HIM UP!
IT'S... IT'S STRONG... IT'S TOO MUCH OF A STRUGGLE... KEEPING THE SYMBIOTE DOWN!
IT'S POISONING ME... DESTROYING ME...
...I CAN FIGHT IT, BUT I CAN'T BE SURE! THE WORLD WOULD BE SAFER IF YOU JUST LOCK ME UP!
BETTER TO TRAP IT INSIDE ME -- KEEP IT FROM ESCAPING -- MURDERING AGAIN!
A SHORT TIME LATER...
THIS CELL IS LIKE KASADY'S -- EQUIPPED WITH THE MICROWAVE PROJECTORS THAT ARE KNOWN TO SUBDUE THE SYMBIOTE!
I'M TURNING THEM ON AT LOW FREQUENCY -- MAYBE KEEP IT FROM PLAYING HAVOC WITH YOUR --
AAAAR-YES!
I CAN FEEL THE MICROWAVES WEAKENING IT! TURN IT UP! TURN IT UP!
I CAN'T! IT'D BROIL YOU WHERE YOU STAN --
JUST DO IT!

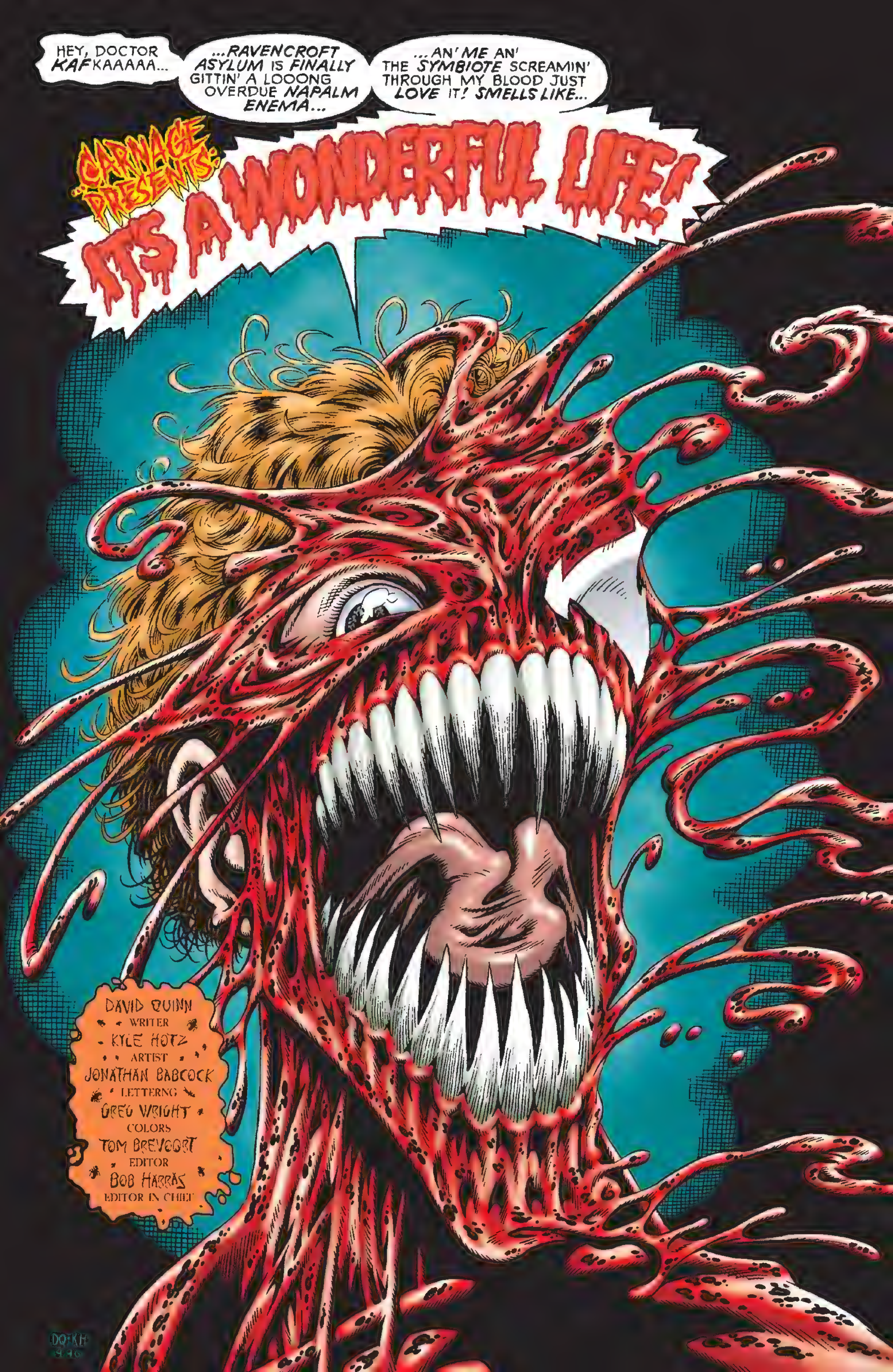

HIS BODY SHUDDERS WITH SPASMS, AS THE UNSEEN BATTLE WITHIN PLAYS OUT A BATTLE FOR DOMINANCE -- CONTROL --
-- AND FINALLY FOR FREEDOM, AS, THROUGH SHEER FORCE OF WILL, SPIDER-MAN FORCES THE SYMBIOTE OUT --
-- PURGING HIS SPENT, FEVERED MIND OF THE MALIGNANT DISEASE!
YOU DID IT! YOU FORCED OUT THE SYMBIOTE!
I'M MAINTAINING THE MICROWAVE FREQUENCY -- IF WE CAN JUST ISOLATE --
WHA-?!
OMIGOD!
SHLOOP
NO!
NO! NO! NO! NO!

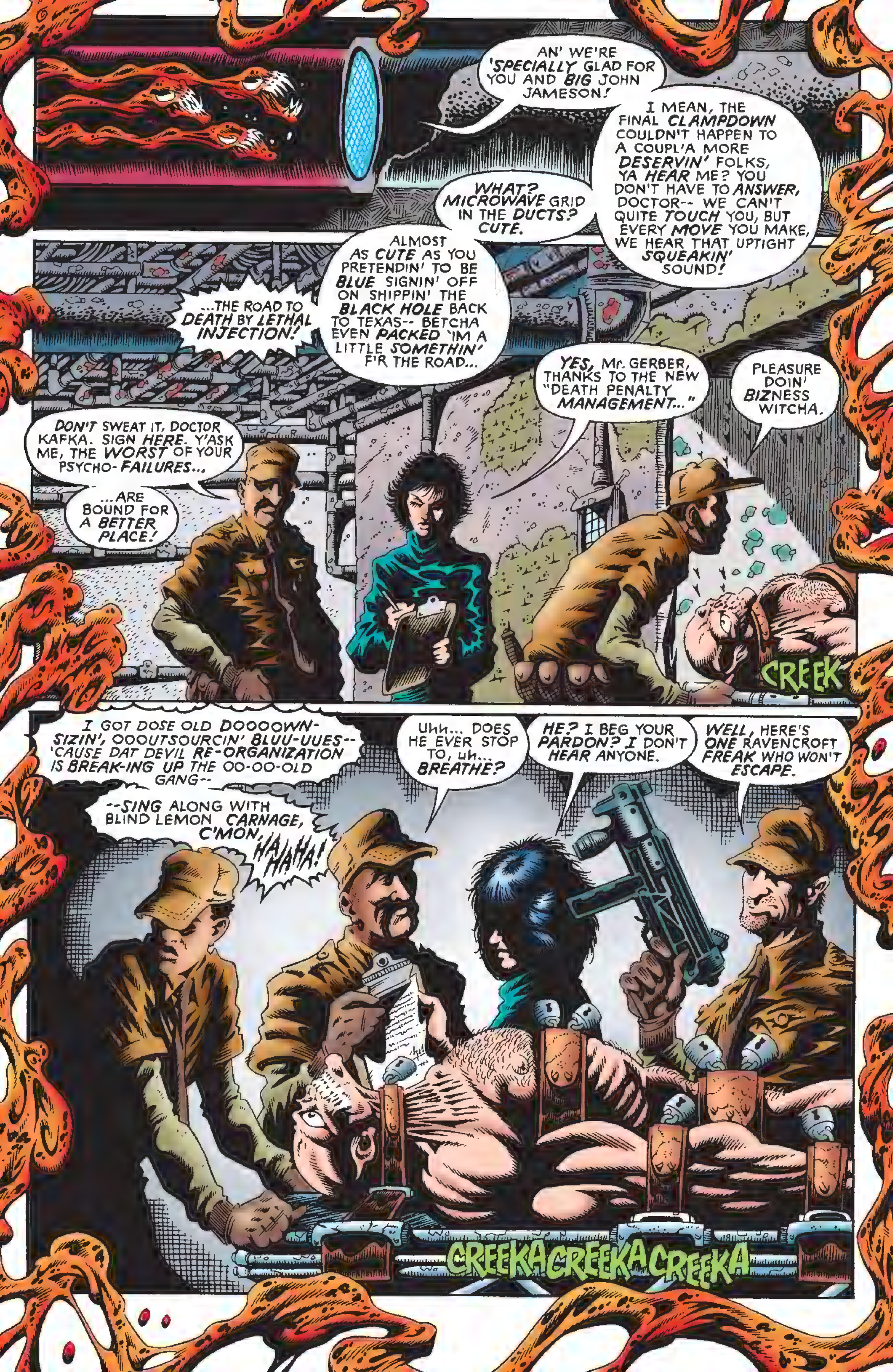

SLUP
THUP
NO! THE SYMBIOTE --
-- THAT MUST BE HOW IT GOT OUT IN THE FIRST PLACE!
WE HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO STOP IT BEFORE IT HAS A CHANCE TO RECOMBINE WITH --
I KNEW YOU'D COME BACK! HA HA!
FILL ME!
CONSUME ME!
COMPLETE ME!
HA HA HA!
SHWUK
AND THE TRIUMPHANT LAUGHTER OF CARNAGE ECHOES THROUGH THE HALLS OF RAVENCROFT...
...FOR MANY HOURS TO COME.

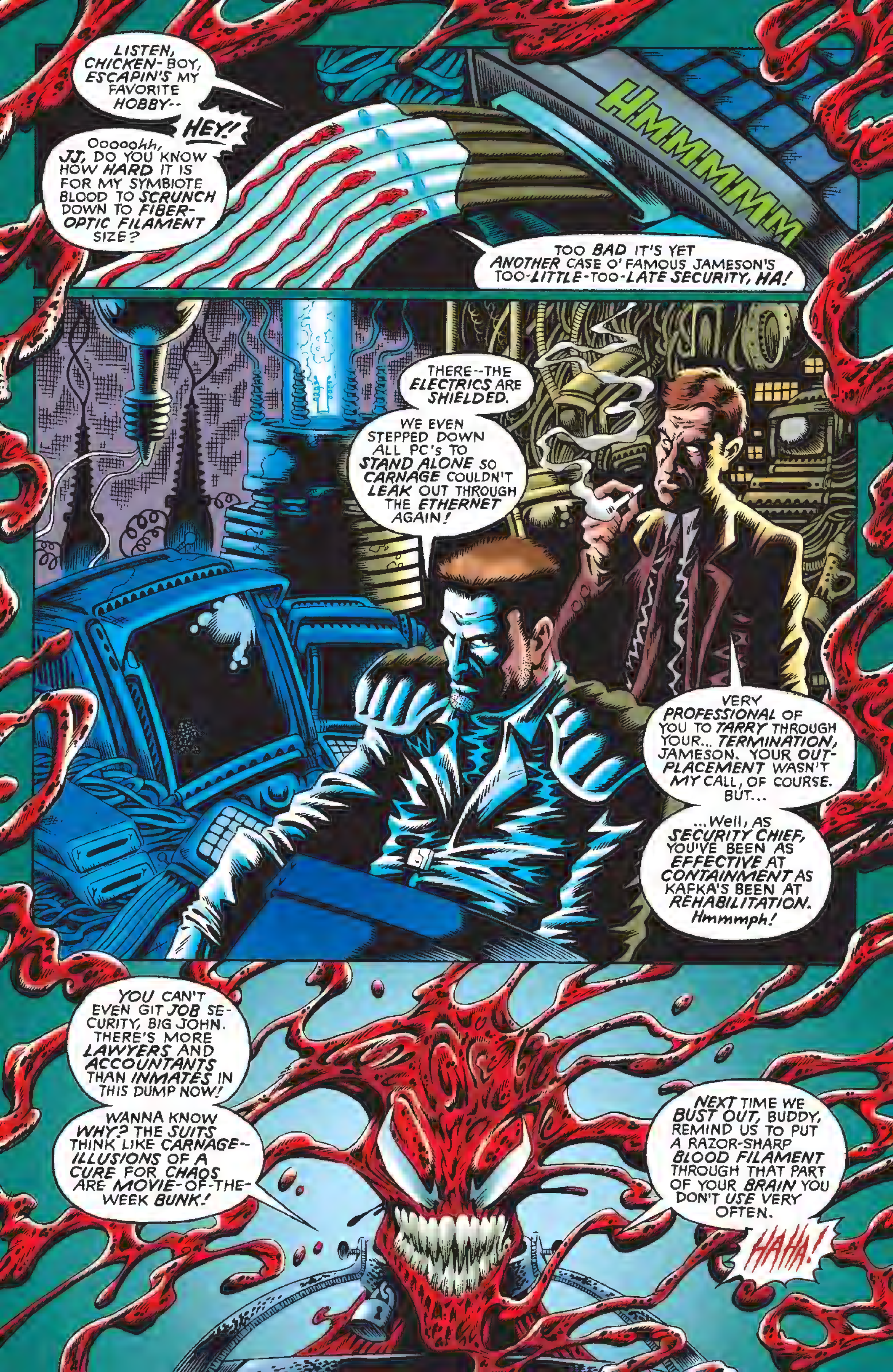

LATER...
...AND THE ONE THING THAT I'M SO **DESPERATE** TO **AVOID** TURNS OUT TO BE EXACTLY WHAT **HAPPENS** --
MAYBE IF I HAD BEEN **STRONGER,** I WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO KEEP THE SYMBIOTE **DOWN.**
WHAT ARE YOU -- **CRAZY?!**
HERE YOU WERE WILLING TO SACRIFICE **YOUR LIFE** TO PUT AN END TO CARNAGE -- READY TO IMPRISON THAT **THING** IN YOUR MIND **FOREVER!**
I DON'T THINK ***I*** WOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO DO THAT...
AND THINGS ENDED UP THE WAY THEY DID BECAUSE OF A **VARIABLE** WE DIDN'T EVEN **KNOW** WAS IN THE EQUATION...
...THAT IT WAS USING THE **PLUMBING** TO GET AROUND!
MAYBE IF SOMEONE HERE AT **RAVENCROFT** HAD CONSIDERED THAT **POSSIBILITY,** YOU WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO GO THROUGH ALL OF THIS...
HEY -- **WHO KNEW?!?**
IT'S AN **ALIEN LIFEFORM!** YOU GUYS CAN'T BE EXPECTED TO **SECOND-GUESS** --

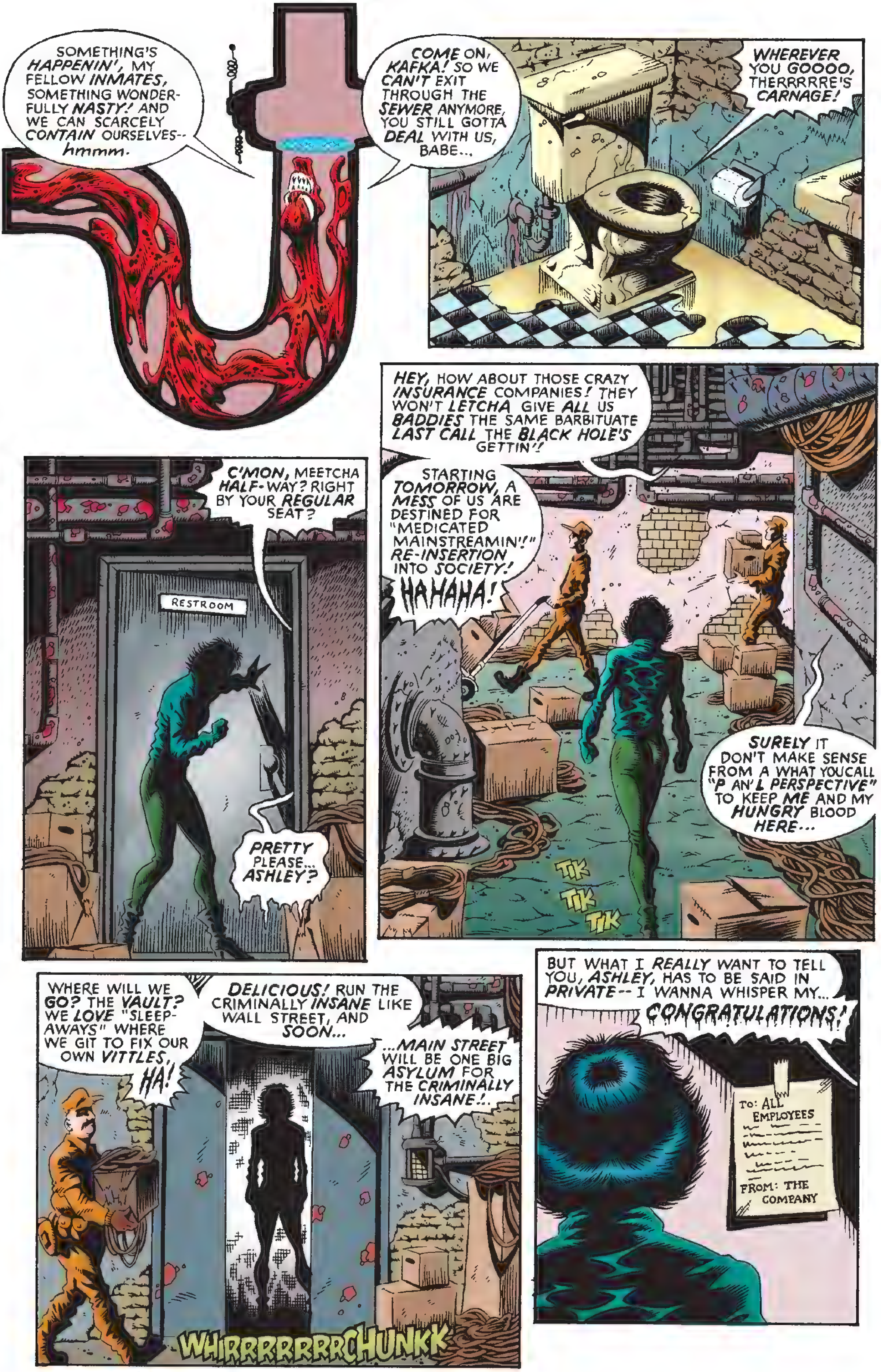

HEH. LOOK AT US --
-- HERE WE ARE, KICKING OURSELVES, PLAYING "WHAT IF" -- TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT WE COULD HAVE DONE TO MAKE THIS WORK OUT BETTER...
...WHEN EVERY DAY WE'RE STRUGGLING JUST TO KEEP OUR HEADS ABOVE WATER! WITH THE NUTJOBS WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH...
...IT'S A WONDER WE *EVER* COME OUT ON TOP!
SO DON'T THINK YOU FAILED. YOU WON TODAY IN A WAY NO ONE COULD EVER IMAGINE. YOU'RE A HERO IN MY BOOK -- AND WHAT YOU DID WAS THE RIGHT THING!
THANKS, JOHN --
EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE, I WONDER IF I'M DOING THE RIGHT THING -- IF I'M MAKING A DIFFERENCE, AND AFTER ALL THIS --
-- WELL... I REALLY NEEDED TO HEAR THAT!
NEXT:
THE HOBGOBLIN
THWIP

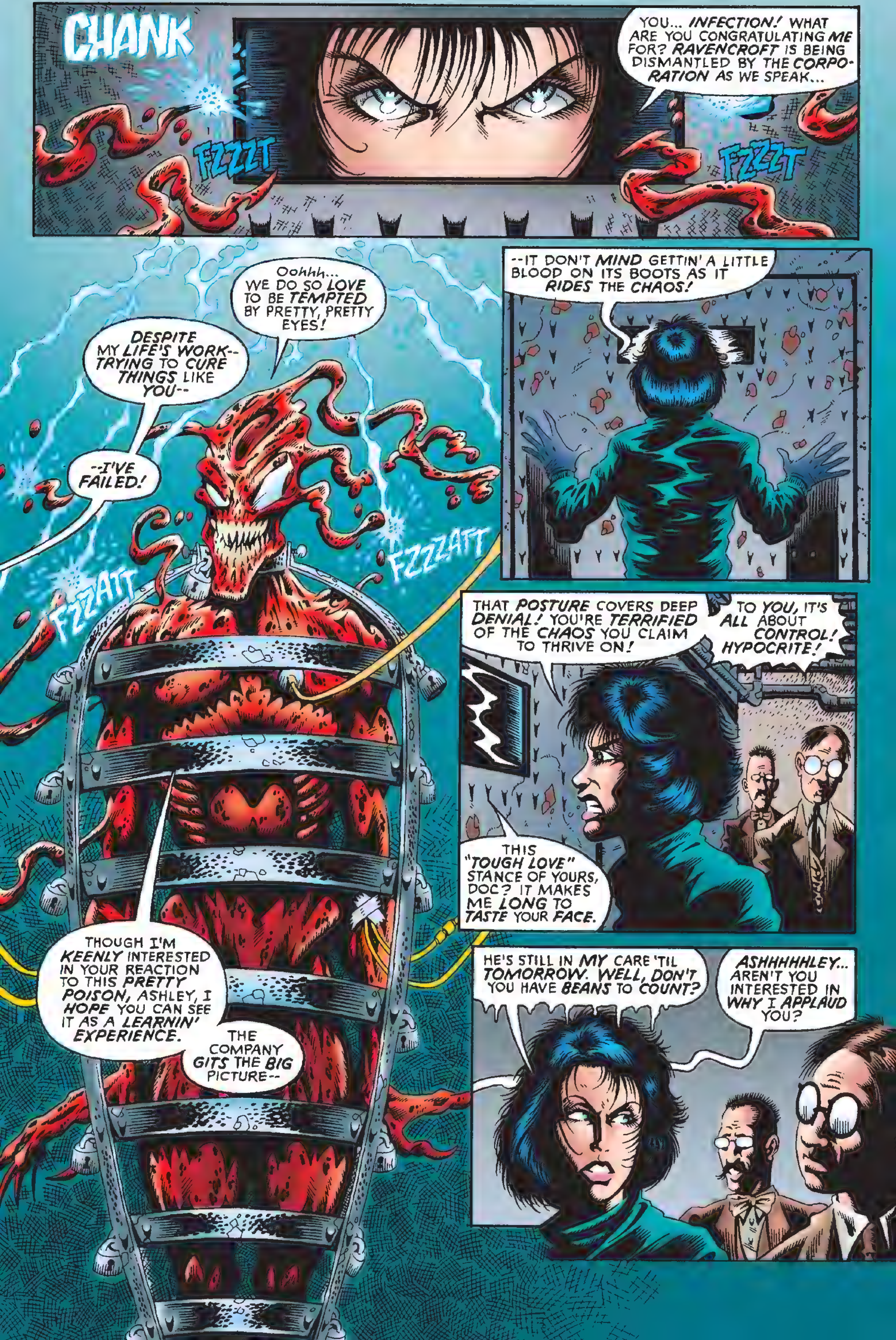

MARVEL COMICS
CARNAGE
OCT '96 1
For mature readers
CARNAGE
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE
Kyle '96
I LOVE THE DEAD

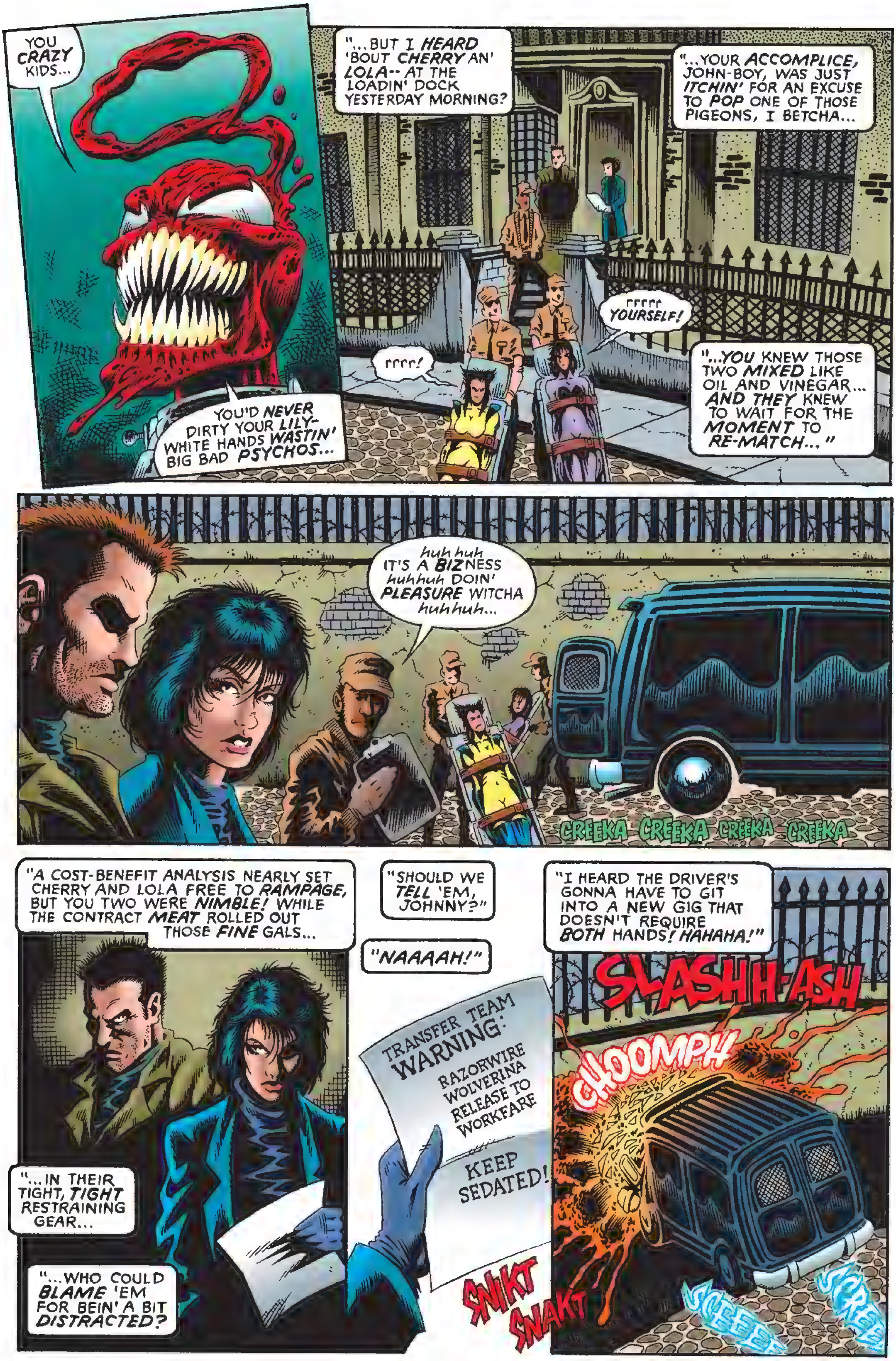

HEY, DOCTOR *KAF*KAAAAA...
...*RAVENCROFT ASYLUM* IS *FINALLY* GITTIN' A LOOONG OVERDUE *NAPALM ENEMA*...
...AN' *ME* AN' THE *SYMBIOTE* SCREAMIN' THROUGH MY BLOOD JUST *LOVE* IT! *SMELLS LIKE*...
CARNAGE PRESENTS: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE!
DAVID QUINN WRITER
KYLE HOTZ ARTIST
JONATHAN BABCOCK LETTERNG
GREG WRIGHT COLORS
TOM BREVOORT EDITOR
BOB HARRAS EDITOR IN CHIEF
DQ·KH

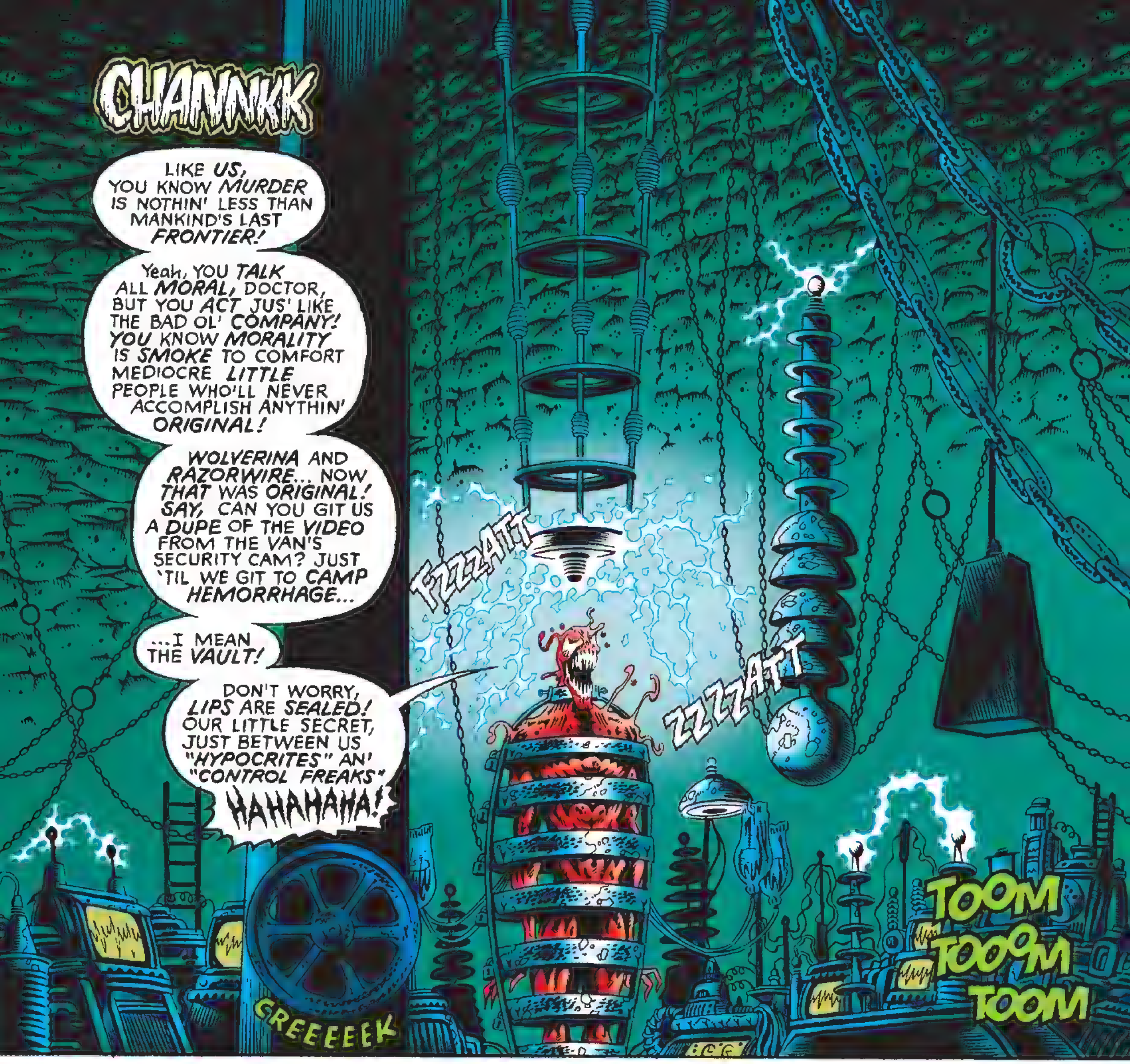

AN' WE'RE 'SPECIALLY GLAD FOR YOU AND BIG JOHN JAMESON!
I MEAN, THE FINAL CLAMPDOWN COULDN'T HAPPEN TO A COUPL'A MORE DESERVIN' FOLKS, YA HEAR ME? YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER, DOCTOR-- WE CAN'T QUITE TOUCH YOU, BUT EVERY MOVE YOU MAKE, WE HEAR THAT UPTIGHT SQUEAKIN' SOUND!
WHAT? MICROWAVE GRID IN THE DUCTS? CUTE.
ALMOST AS CUTE AS YOU PRETENDIN' TO BE BLUE SIGNIN' OFF ON SHIPPIN' THE BLACK HOLE BACK TO TEXAS-- BETCHA EVEN PACKED 'IM A LITTLE SOMETHIN' F'R THE ROAD...
...THE ROAD TO DEATH BY LETHAL INJECTION!
DON'T SWEAT IT, DOCTOR KAFKA. SIGN HERE. Y'ASK ME, THE WORST OF YOUR PSYCHO-FAILURES...
...ARE BOUND FOR A BETTER PLACE!
YES, Mr. GERBER, THANKS TO THE NEW "DEATH PENALTY MANAGEMENT..."
PLEASURE DOIN' BIZNESS WITCHA.
CREEK
I GOT DOSE OLD DOOOOWN-SIZIN', OOOUTSOURCIN' BLUU-UUES-- 'CAUSE DAT DEVIL RE-ORGANIZATION IS BREAK-ING UP THE OO-OO-OLD GANG--
--SING ALONG WITH BLIND LEMON CARNAGE, C'MON, HAHAHA!
Uhh... DOES HE EVER STOP TO, uh... BREATHE?
HE? I BEG YOUR PARDON? I DON'T HEAR ANYONE.
WELL, HERE'S ONE RAVENCROFT FREAK WHO WON'T ESCAPE.
CREEKACREEKACREEKA

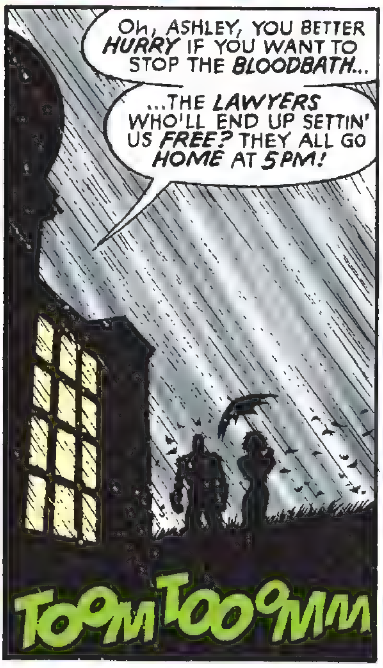

LISTEN, CHICKEN-BOY, ESCAPIN'S MY FAVORITE HOBBY--
HEY!
Ooooohh, JJ, DO YOU KNOW HOW HARD IT IS FOR MY SYMBIOTE BLOOD TO SCRUNCH DOWN TO FIBER-OPTIC FILAMENT SIZE?
HMMMMMM
TOO BAD IT'S YET ANOTHER CASE O' FAMOUS JAMESON'S TOO-LITTLE-TOO-LATE SECURITY, HA!
THERE--THE ELECTRICS ARE SHIELDED.
WE EVEN STEPPED DOWN ALL PC's TO STAND ALONE SO CARNAGE COULDN'T LEAK OUT THROUGH THE ETHERNET AGAIN!
VERY PROFESSIONAL OF YOU TO TARRY THROUGH YOUR... TERMINATION, JAMESON. YOUR OUT-PLACEMENT WASN'T MY CALL, OF COURSE. BUT...
...Well, AS SECURITY CHIEF, YOU'VE BEEN AS EFFECTIVE AT CONTAINMENT AS KAFKA'S BEEN AT REHABILITATION. Hmmmph!
YOU CAN'T EVEN GIT JOB SECURITY, BIG JOHN. THERE'S MORE LAWYERS AND ACCOUNTANTS THAN INMATES IN THIS DUMP NOW!
WANNA KNOW WHY? THE SUITS THINK LIKE CARNAGE-- ILLUSIONS OF A CURE FOR CHAOS ARE MOVIE-OF-THE-WEEK BUNK!
NEXT TIME WE BUST OUT, BUDDY, REMIND US TO PUT A RAZOR-SHARP BLOOD FILAMENT THROUGH THAT PART OF YOUR BRAIN YOU DON'T USE VERY OFTEN.
HAHA!

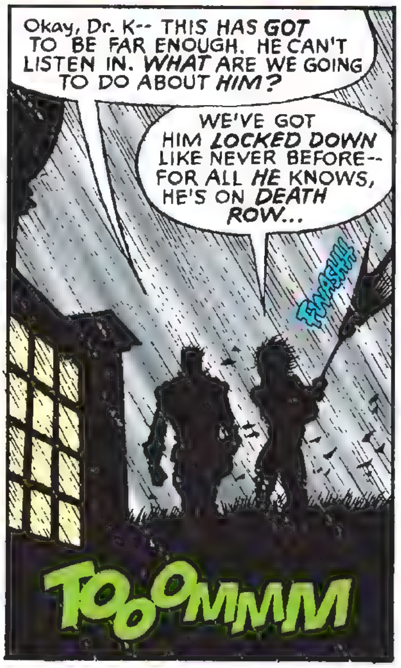

SOMETHING'S *HAPPENIN'*, MY FELLOW *INMATES*, SOMETHING WONDERFULLY *NASTY!* AND WE CAN SCARCELY *CONTAIN* OURSELVES-- *hmmm*.
COME ON, *KAFKA!* SO WE *CAN'T* EXIT THROUGH THE *SEWER* ANYMORE, YOU STILL GOTTA *DEAL* WITH US, BABE...
WHEREVER YOU *GOOOO*, THERRRRRE'S *CARNAGE!*
C'MON, MEETCHA *HALF*-WAY? RIGHT BY YOUR *REGULAR* SEAT?
RESTROOM
PRETTY PLEASE... *ASHLEY?*
HEY, HOW ABOUT THOSE CRAZY *INSURANCE* COMPANIES! THEY WON'T *LETCHA* GIVE *ALL* US *BADDIES* THE SAME BARBITUATE *LAST CALL* THE *BLACK HOLE'S* GETTIN'!
STARTING *TOMORROW*, A *MESS* OF US ARE DESTINED FOR "MEDICATED MAINSTREAMIN'!" *RE-INSERTION* INTO *SOCIETY!* HAHAHA!
SURELY IT DON'T MAKE SENSE FROM A WHAT YOUCALL *"P AN' L PERSPECTIVE"* TO KEEP *ME* AND MY *HUNGRY* BLOOD *HERE*...
TIK TIK TIK
WHERE WILL WE *GO?* THE *VAULT?* WE *LOVE* "SLEEP-AWAYS" WHERE WE GIT TO FIX OUR OWN *VITTLES*, HA!
DELICIOUS! RUN THE CRIMINALLY *INSANE* LIKE WALL STREET, AND *SOON*...
...*MAIN STREET* WILL BE ONE BIG *ASYLUM* FOR THE *CRIMINALLY INSANE!*...
WHIRRRRRRRCHUNKK
BUT WHAT I *REALLY* WANT TO TELL YOU, *ASHLEY*, HAS TO BE SAID IN *PRIVATE*-- I WANNA WHISPER MY... CONGRATULATIONS!
TO: ALL EMPLOYEES
FROM: THE COMPANY

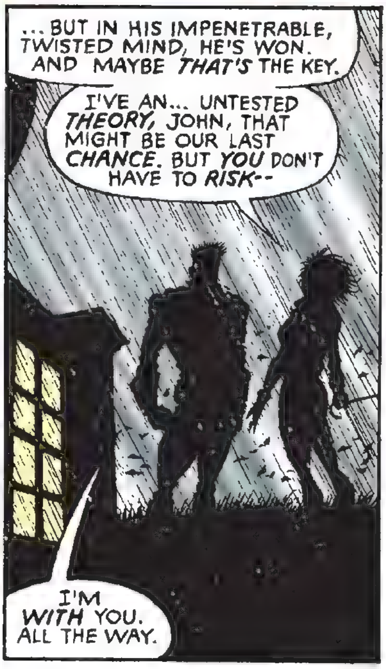

CHANK
FZZZT
FZZZT
YOU... INFECTION! WHAT ARE YOU CONGRATULATING ME FOR? RAVENCROFT IS BEING DISMANTLED BY THE CORPORATION AS WE SPEAK...
DESPITE MY LIFE'S WORK-- TRYING TO CURE THINGS LIKE YOU--
--I'VE FAILED!
Oohhh... WE DO SO LOVE TO BE TEMPTED BY PRETTY, PRETTY EYES!
FZZZATT
FZZZATT
THOUGH I'M KEENLY INTERESTED IN YOUR REACTION TO THIS PRETTY POISON, ASHLEY, I HOPE YOU CAN SEE IT AS A LEARNIN' EXPERIENCE.
THE COMPANY GITS THE BIG PICTURE--
--IT DON'T MIND GETTIN' A LITTLE BLOOD ON ITS BOOTS AS IT RIDES THE CHAOS!
THAT POSTURE COVERS DEEP DENIAL! YOU'RE TERRIFIED OF THE CHAOS YOU CLAIM TO THRIVE ON!
TO YOU, IT'S ALL ABOUT CONTROL! HYPOCRITE!
THIS "TOUGH LOVE" STANCE OF YOURS, DOC? IT MAKES ME LONG TO TASTE YOUR FACE.
HE'S STILL IN MY CARE 'TIL TOMORROW. WELL, DON'T YOU HAVE BEANS TO COUNT?
ASHHHHHLEY... AREN'T YOU INTERESTED IN WHY I APPLAUD YOU?

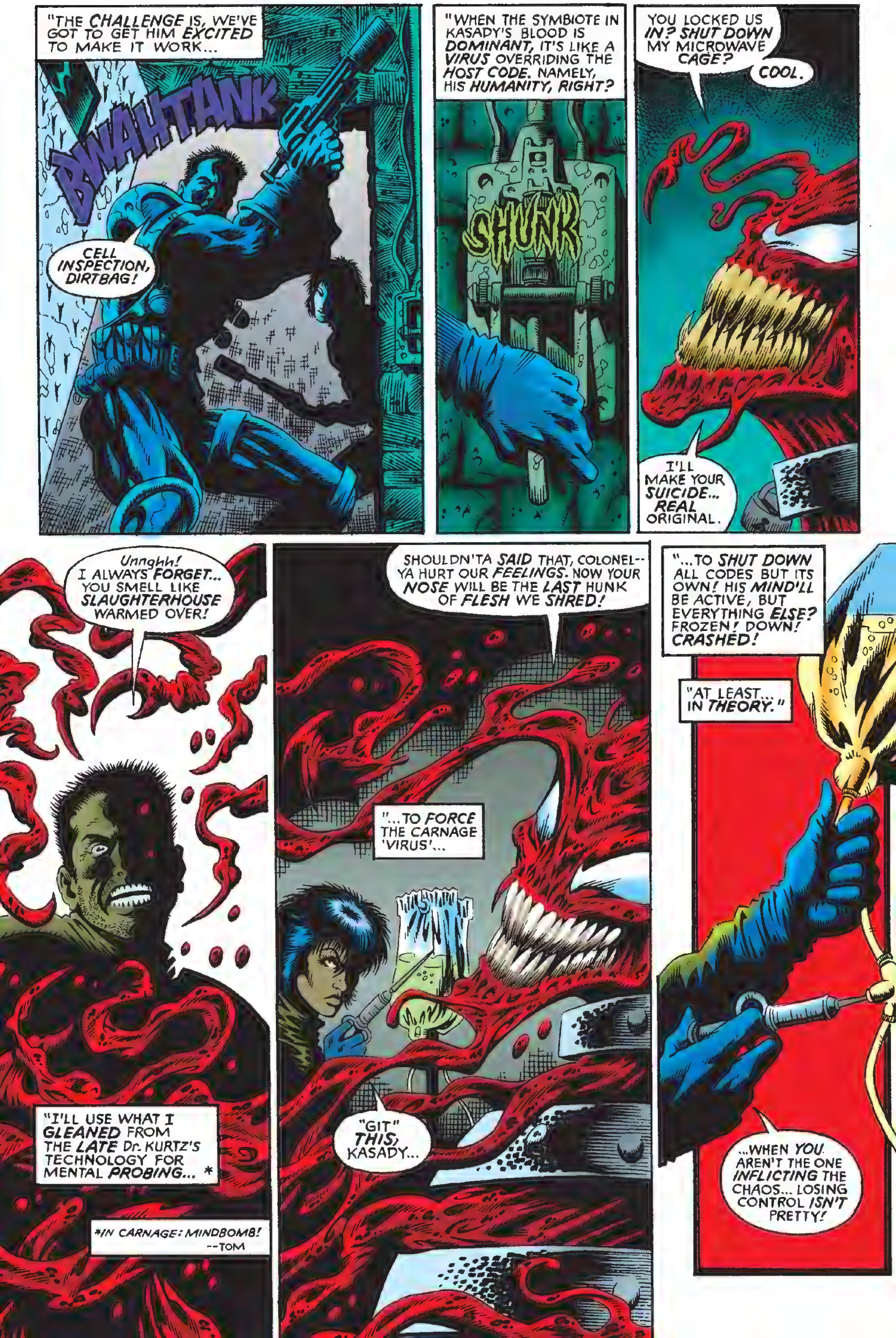

YOU CRAZY KIDS...
YOU'D NEVER DIRTY YOUR LILY-WHITE HANDS WASTIN' BIG BAD PSYCHOS...
"...BUT I HEARD 'BOUT CHERRY AN' LOLA-- AT THE LOADIN' DOCK YESTERDAY MORNING?
"...YOUR ACCOMPLICE, JOHN-BOY, WAS JUST ITCHIN' FOR AN EXCUSE TO POP ONE OF THOSE PIGEONS, I BETCHA...
rrrr!
rrrrr YOURSELF!
"...YOU KNEW THOSE TWO MIXED LIKE OIL AND VINEGAR... AND THEY KNEW TO WAIT FOR THE MOMENT TO RE-MATCH..."
huh huh IT'S A BIZNESS huhhuh DOIN' PLEASURE WITCHA huhhuh...
CREEKA CREEKA CREEKA CREEKA
"A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS NEARLY SET CHERRY AND LOLA FREE TO RAMPAGE, BUT YOU TWO WERE NIMBLE! WHILE THE CONTRACT MEAT ROLLED OUT THOSE FINE GALS...
"...IN THEIR TIGHT, TIGHT RESTRAINING GEAR...
"...WHO COULD BLAME 'EM FOR BEIN' A BIT DISTRACTED?
"SHOULD WE TELL 'EM, JOHNNY?"
"NAAAAH!"
TRANSFER TEAM WARNING:
RAZORWIRE
WOLVERINA
RELEASE TO WORKFARE
KEEP SEDATED!
SNIKT
SNAKT
"I HEARD THE DRIVER'S GONNA HAVE TO GIT INTO A NEW GIG THAT DOESN'T REQUIRE BOTH HANDS! HAHAHA!"
SLASHH-ASH
CHOOOMPH
SCREEEF
SCREE

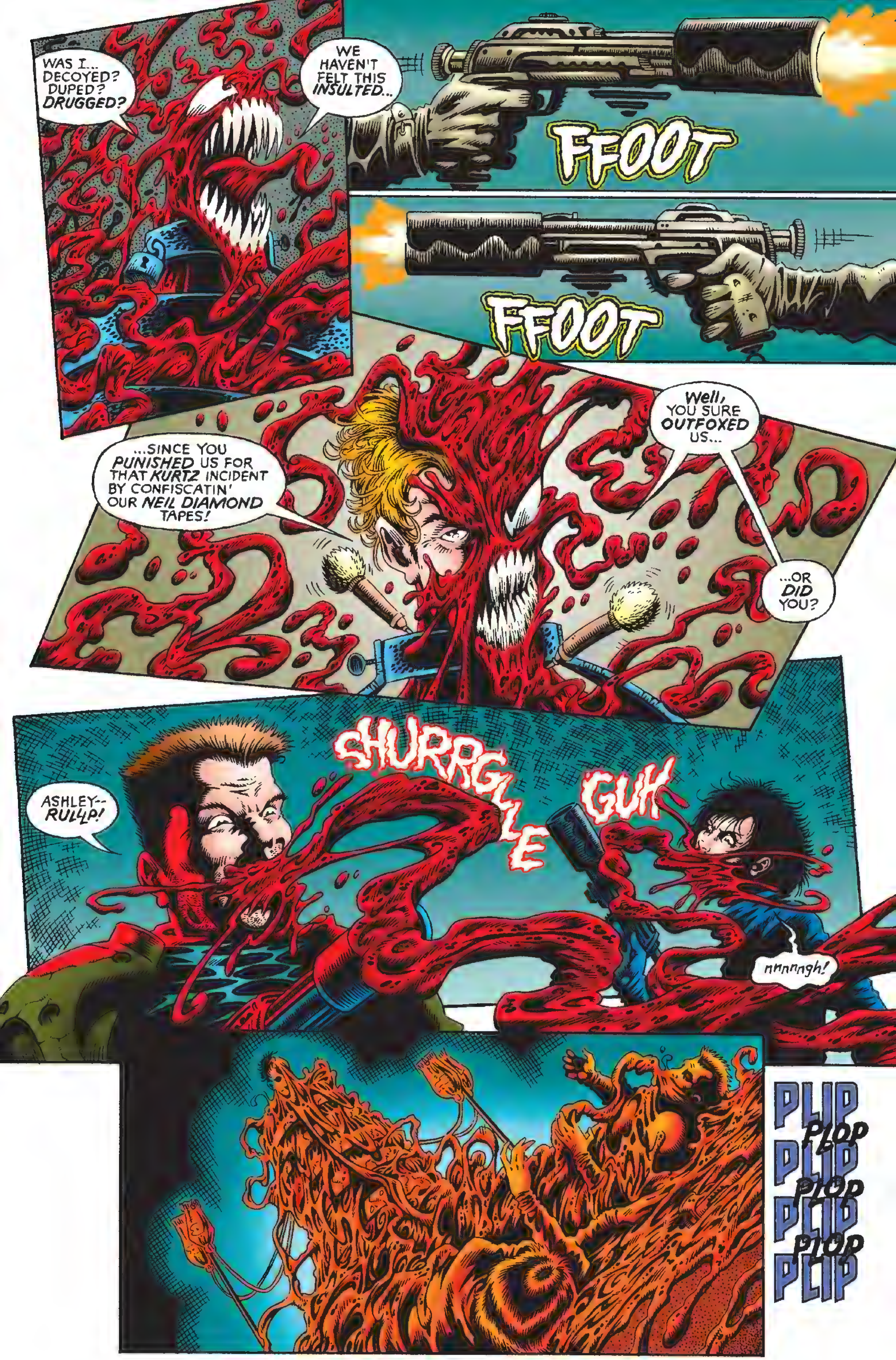

CHANNKK
LIKE *US*, YOU KNOW *MURDER* IS NOTHIN' LESS THAN MANKIND'S LAST *FRONTIER!*
Yeah, YOU *TALK* ALL *MORAL*, DOCTOR, BUT YOU *ACT* JUS' LIKE THE BAD OL' *COMPANY! YOU* KNOW *MORALITY* IS *SMOKE* TO COMFORT MEDIOCRE *LITTLE* PEOPLE WHO'LL NEVER ACCOMPLISH ANYTHIN' *ORIGINAL!*
WOLVERINA AND *RAZORWIRE*... NOW *THAT* WAS *ORIGINAL! SAY,* CAN YOU GIT US A *DUPE* OF THE *VIDEO* FROM THE VAN'S SECURITY CAM? JUST 'TIL WE GIT TO *CAMP HEMORRHAGE*...
...I MEAN THE *VAULT!*
DON'T WORRY, *LIPS* ARE *SEALED!* OUR LITTLE SECRET, JUST BETWEEN US *"HYPOCRITES"* AN' *"CONTROL FREAKS"*
HAHAHAHA!
TZZZZATT
ZZZZATT
GREEEEEK
TOOM TOOOM TOOM

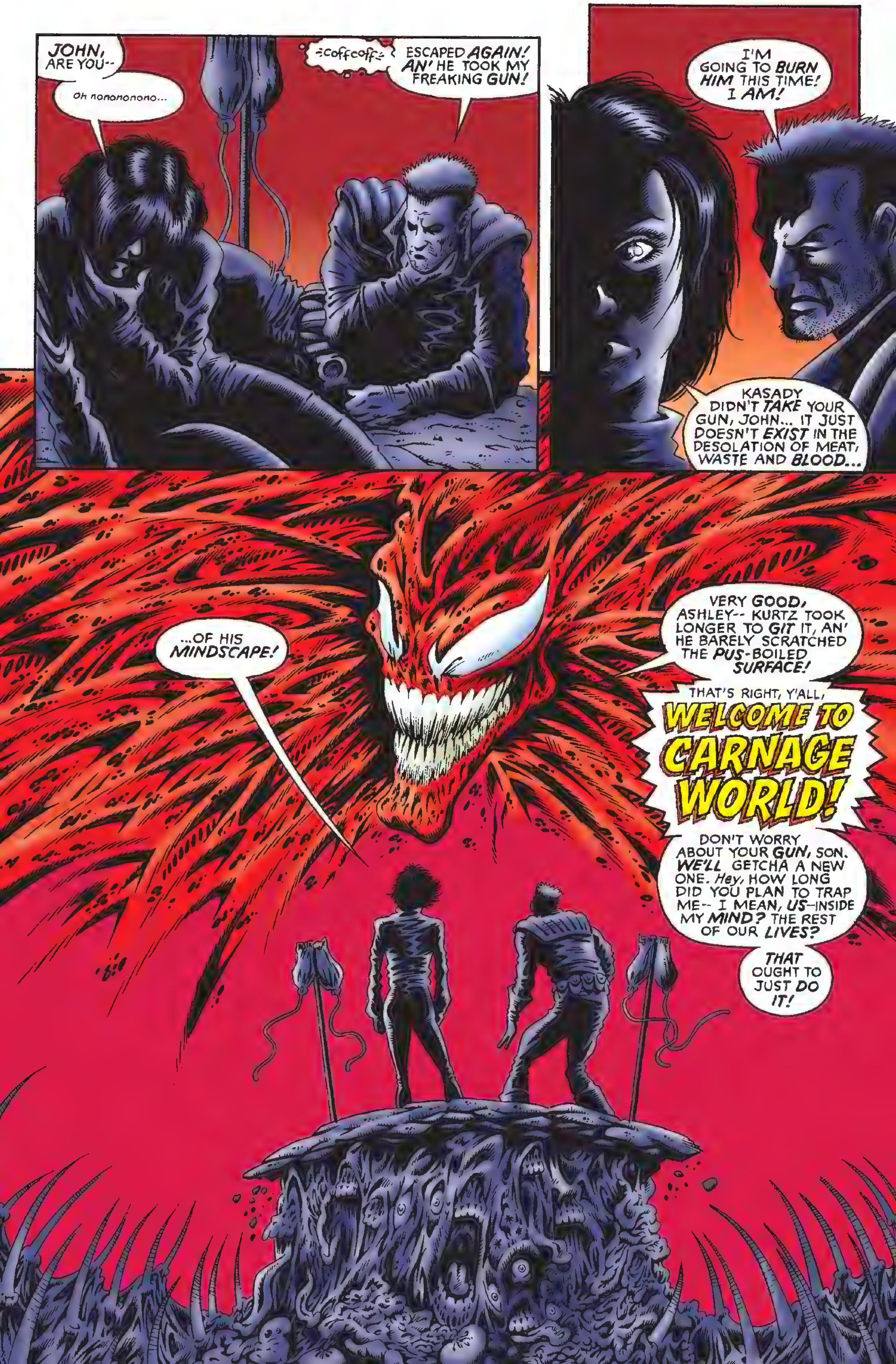

Oh, ASHLEY, YOU BETTER *HURRY* IF YOU WANT TO STOP THE *BLOODBATH*...
...THE *LAWYERS* WHO'LL END UP SETTIN' US *FREE?* THEY ALL GO *HOME* AT *5PM!*
TOOM TOOOMM

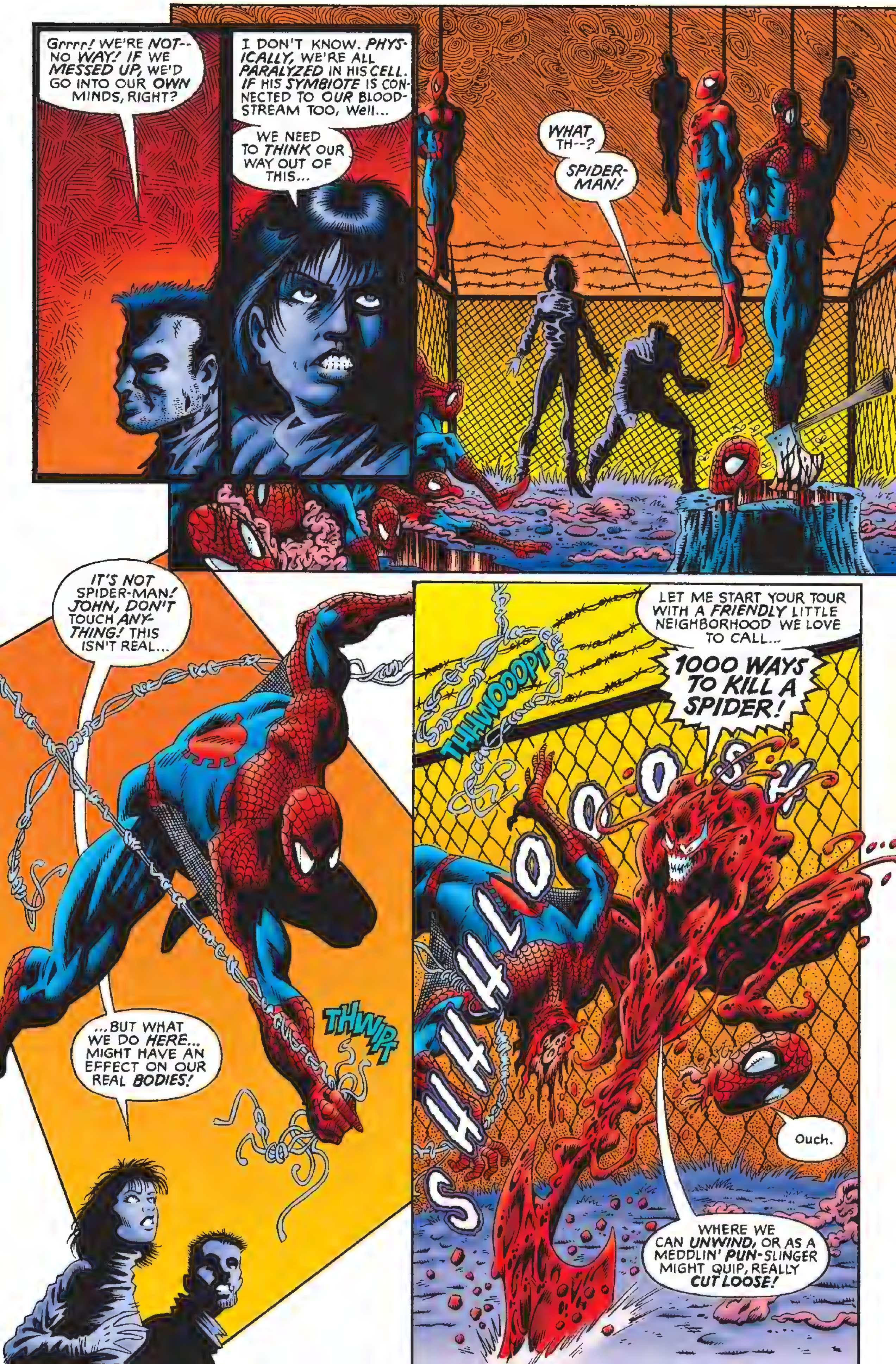

Okay, Dr. K-- THIS HAS *GOT* TO BE FAR ENOUGH. HE CAN'T LISTEN IN. *WHAT* ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT *HIM?*
WE'VE GOT HIM *LOCKED DOWN* LIKE NEVER BEFORE-- FOR ALL *HE* KNOWS, HE'S ON *DEATH ROW*...
FWASHHH
TOOOMMMM

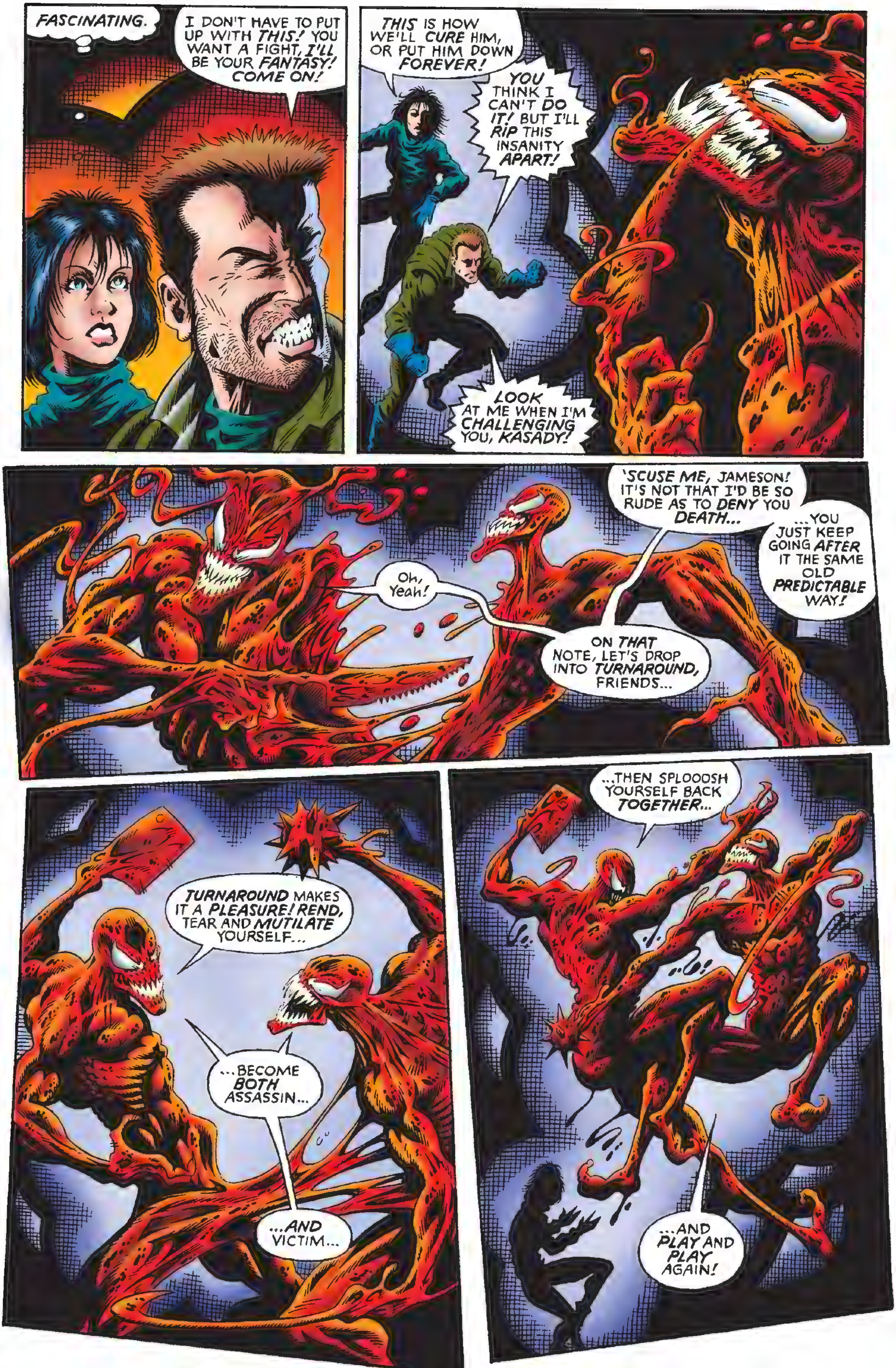

...BUT IN HIS IMPENETRABLE, TWISTED MIND, HE'S WON. AND MAYBE *THAT'S* THE KEY.
I'VE AN... UNTESTED *THEORY*, JOHN, THAT MIGHT BE OUR LAST *CHANCE*. BUT *YOU* DON'T HAVE TO *RISK*--
I'M *WITH* YOU. ALL THE WAY.

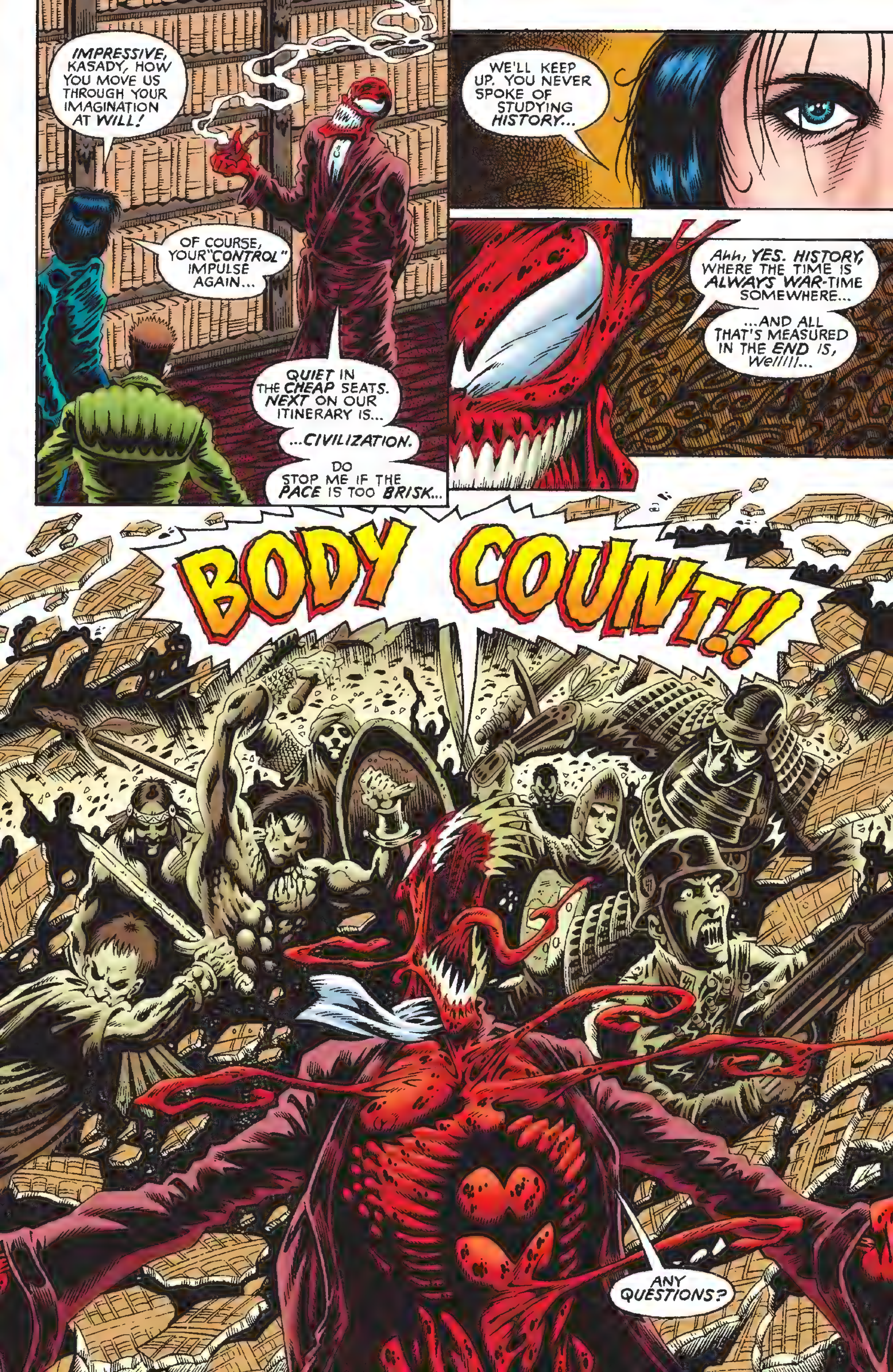

"THE CHALLENGE IS, WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM EXCITED TO MAKE IT WORK...
BWAHTANK
CELL INSPECTION, DIRTBAG!
"WHEN THE SYMBIOTE IN KASADY'S BLOOD IS DOMINANT, IT'S LIKE A VIRUS OVERRIDING THE HOST CODE. NAMELY, HIS HUMANITY, RIGHT?
SHUNK
YOU LOCKED US IN? SHUT DOWN MY MICROWAVE CAGE?
COOL.
I'LL MAKE YOUR SUICIDE... REAL ORIGINAL.
Unnghh! I ALWAYS FORGET... YOU SMELL LIKE SLAUGHTERHOUSE WARMED OVER!
"I'LL USE WHAT I GLEANED FROM THE LATE Dr. KURTZ'S TECHNOLOGY FOR MENTAL PROBING... *
*IN CARNAGE: MINDBOMB! --TOM
SHOULDN'TA SAID THAT, COLONEL-- YA HURT OUR FEELINGS. NOW YOUR NOSE WILL BE THE LAST HUNK OF FLESH WE SHRED!
"...TO FORCE THE CARNAGE 'VIRUS'...
"GIT" THIS, KASADY...
"...TO SHUT DOWN ALL CODES BUT ITS OWN! HIS MIND'LL BE ACTIVE, BUT EVERYTHING ELSE? FROZEN! DOWN! CRASHED!
"AT LEAST... IN THEORY."
...WHEN YOU AREN'T THE ONE INFLICTING THE CHAOS... LOSING CONTROL ISN'T PRETTY!

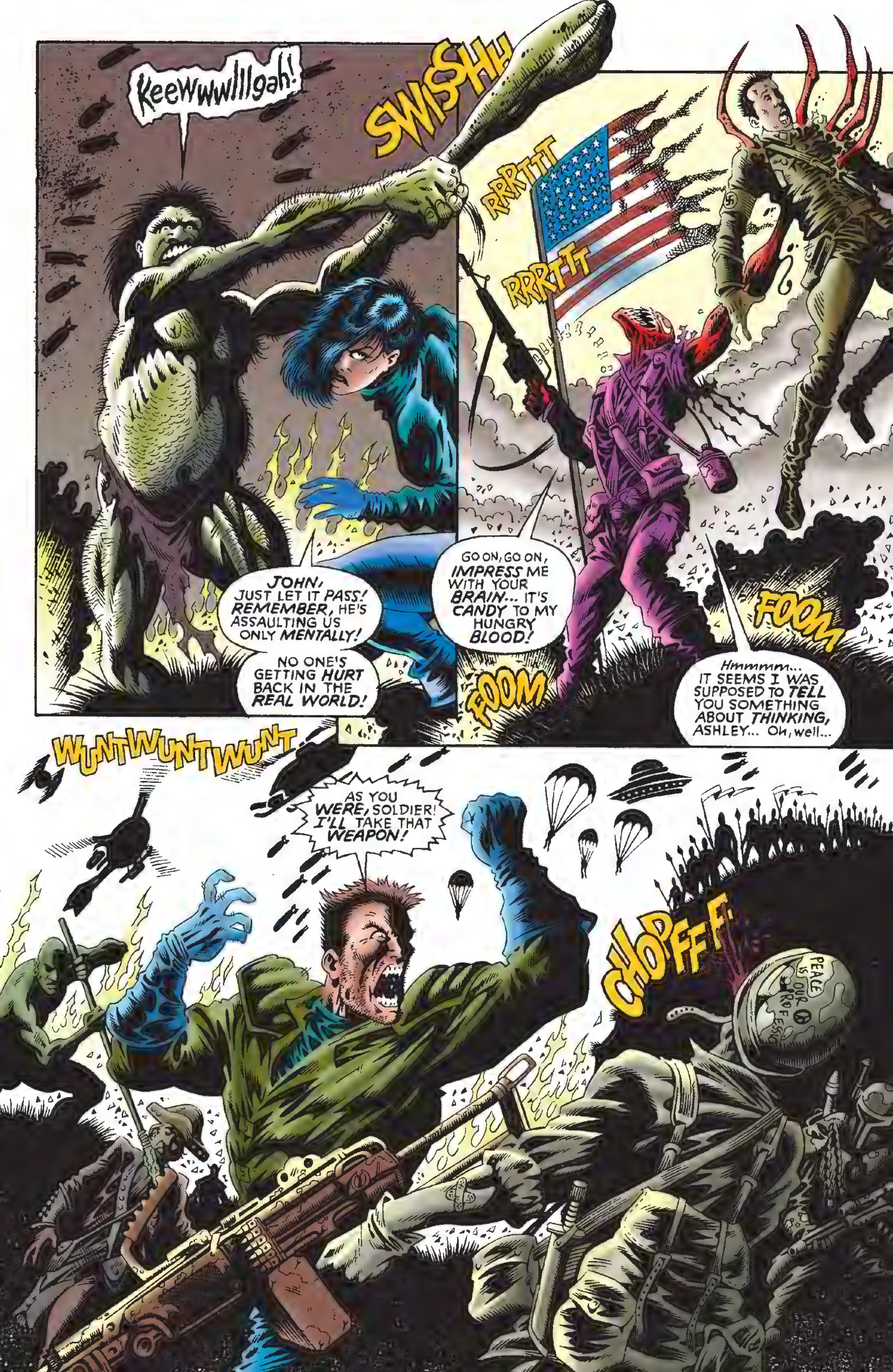

WAS I... DECOYED? DUPED? *DRUGGED?*
WE HAVEN'T FELT THIS *INSULTED*...
FFOOT
FFOOT
...SINCE YOU *PUNISHED* US FOR THAT *KURTZ* INCIDENT BY CONFISCATIN' OUR *NEIL DIAMOND* TAPES!
Well, YOU SURE *OUTFOXED* US...
...OR *DID* YOU?
ASHLEY-- *RULLLP!*
SHURRGLLE
GUK
nnnnngh!
PLIP
PLOP
PLIP
PLOP
PLIP
PLOP
PLIP

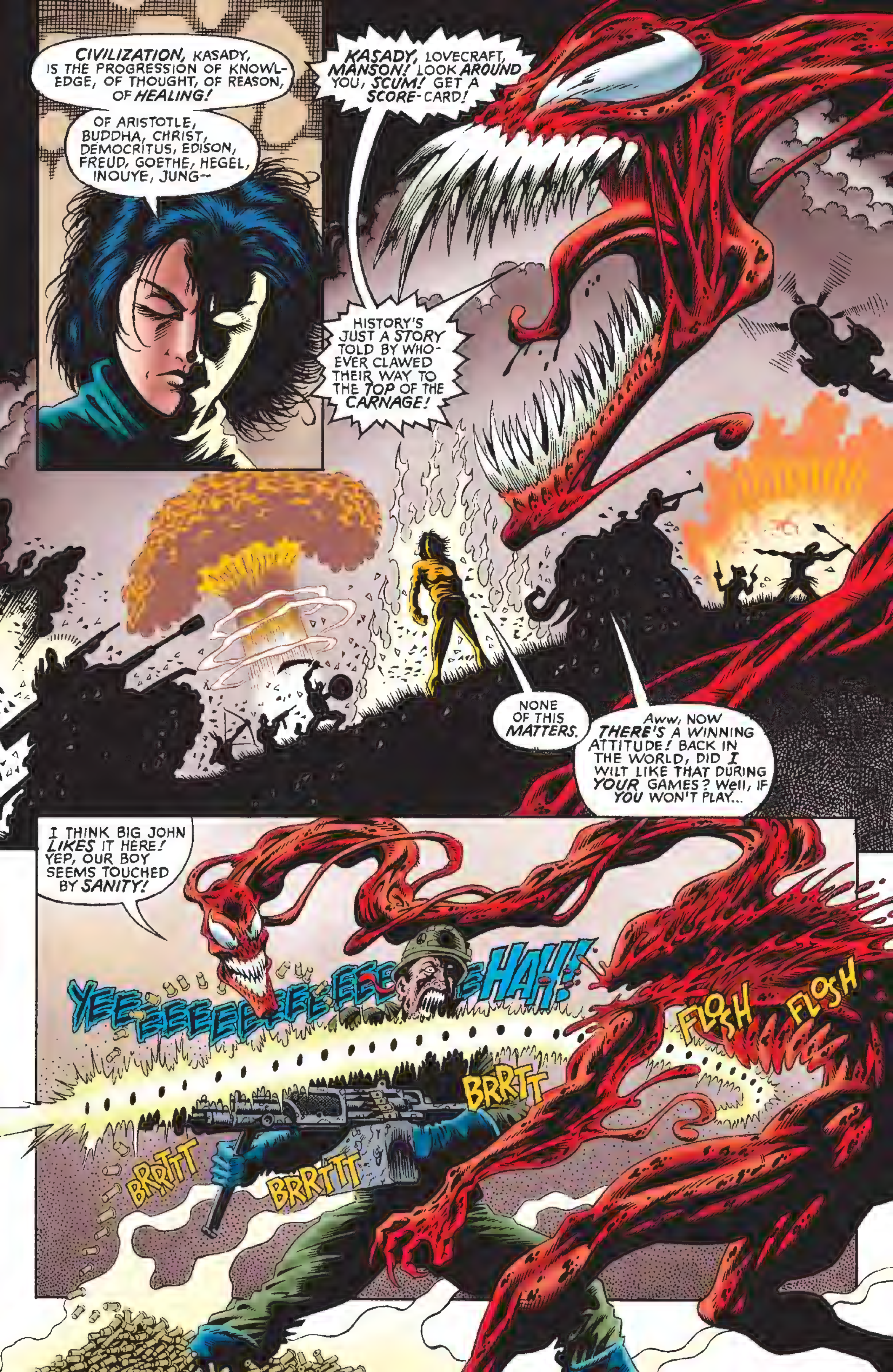

JOHN, ARE YOU--
Oh nonononono...
=coffcoff=
ESCAPED AGAIN! AN' HE TOOK MY FREAKING GUN!
I'M GOING TO BURN HIM THIS TIME! I AM!
KASADY DIDN'T TAKE YOUR GUN, JOHN... IT JUST DOESN'T EXIST IN THE DESOLATION OF MEAT, WASTE AND BLOOD...
...OF HIS MINDSCAPE!
VERY GOOD, ASHLEY-- KURTZ TOOK LONGER TO GIT IT, AN' HE BARELY SCRATCHED THE PUS-BOILED SURFACE!
THAT'S RIGHT, Y'ALL, WELCOME TO CARNAGE WORLD!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT YOUR GUN, SON. WE'LL GETCHA A NEW ONE. Hey, HOW LONG DID YOU PLAN TO TRAP ME-- I MEAN, US--INSIDE MY MIND? THE REST OF OUR LIVES?
THAT OUGHT TO JUST DO IT!

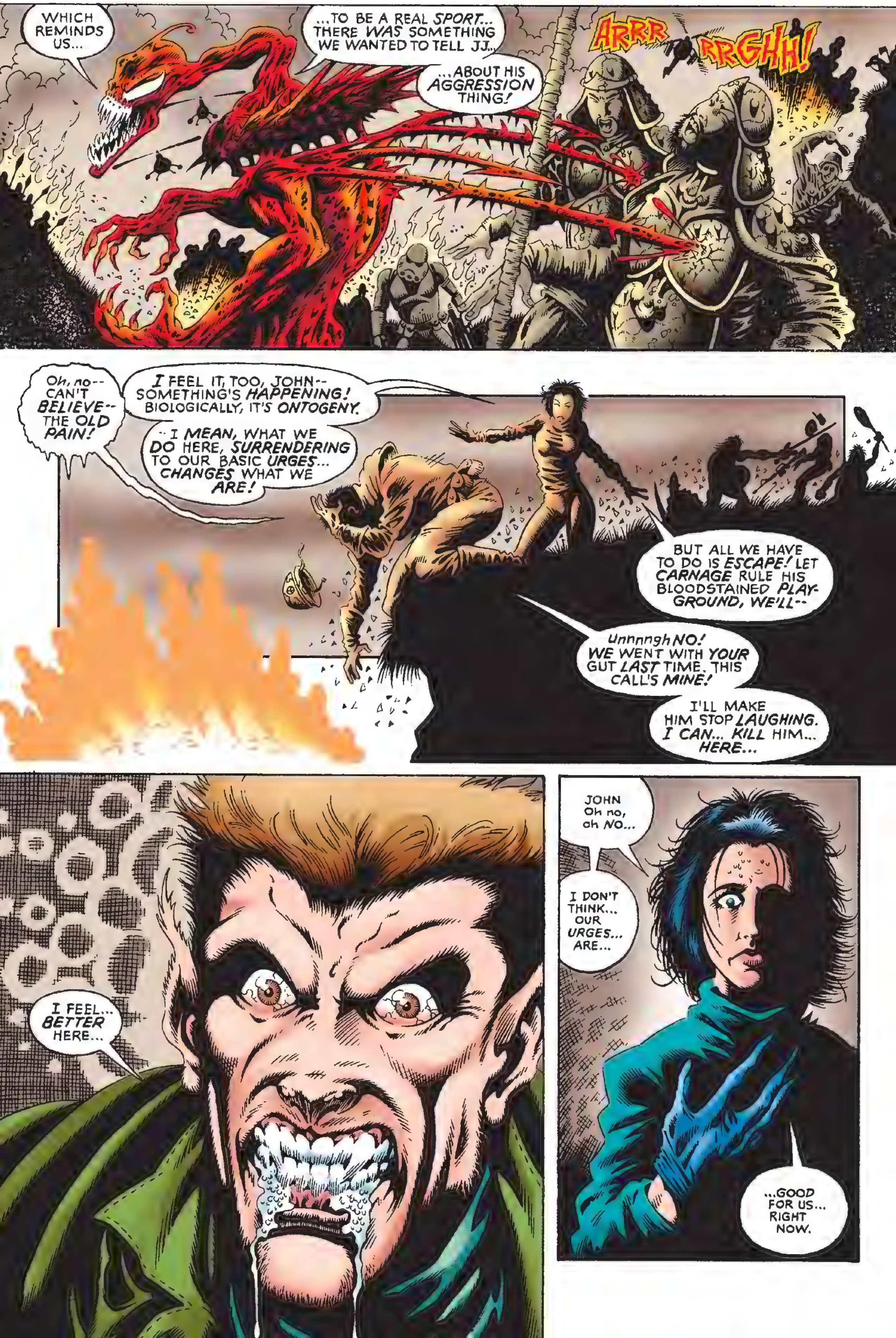

Grrrr! WE'RE NOT-- NO WAY! IF WE MESSED UP, WE'D GO INTO OUR OWN MINDS, RIGHT?
I DON'T KNOW. PHYSICALLY, WE'RE ALL PARALYZED IN HIS CELL. IF HIS SYMBIOTE IS CONNECTED TO OUR BLOODSTREAM TOO, Well...
WE NEED TO THINK OUR WAY OUT OF THIS...
WHAT TH--?
SPIDER-MAN!
IT'S NOT SPIDER-MAN! JOHN, DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING! THIS ISN'T REAL...
THWIPT
...BUT WHAT WE DO HERE... MIGHT HAVE AN EFFECT ON OUR REAL BODIES!
LET ME START YOUR TOUR WITH A FRIENDLY LITTLE NEIGHBORHOOD WE LOVE TO CALL...
1000 WAYS TO KILL A SPIDER!
THWOOOPT
SHHLOOOOSH
Ouch.
WHERE WE CAN UNWIND, OR AS A MEDDLIN' PUN-SLINGER MIGHT QUIP, REALLY CUT LOOSE!

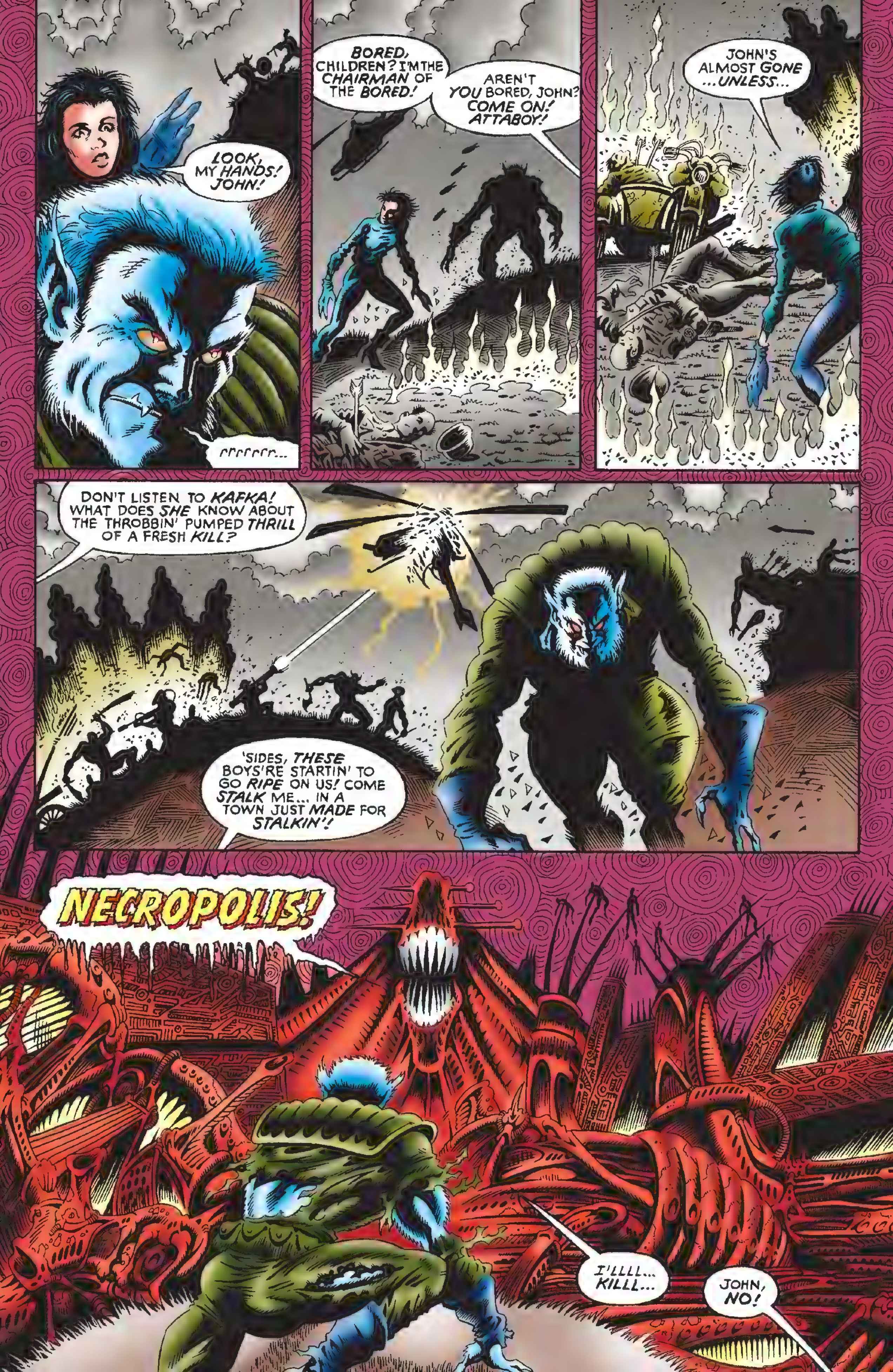

FASCINATING.
I DON'T HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS! YOU WANT A FIGHT, I'LL BE YOUR FANTASY! COME ON!
THIS IS HOW WE'LL CURE HIM, OR PUT HIM DOWN FOREVER!
YOU THINK I CAN'T DO IT! BUT I'LL RIP THIS INSANITY APART!
LOOK AT ME WHEN I'M CHALLENGING YOU, KASADY!
Oh, Yeah!
'SCUSE ME, JAMESON! IT'S NOT THAT I'D BE SO RUDE AS TO DENY YOU DEATH...
...YOU JUST KEEP GOING AFTER IT THE SAME OLD PREDICTABLE WAY!
ON THAT NOTE, LET'S DROP INTO TURNAROUND, FRIENDS...
TURNAROUND MAKES IT A PLEASURE! REND, TEAR AND MUTILATE YOURSELF...
...BECOME BOTH ASSASSIN...
...AND VICTIM...
...THEN SPLOOOSH YOURSELF BACK TOGETHER...
...AND PLAY AND PLAY AGAIN!

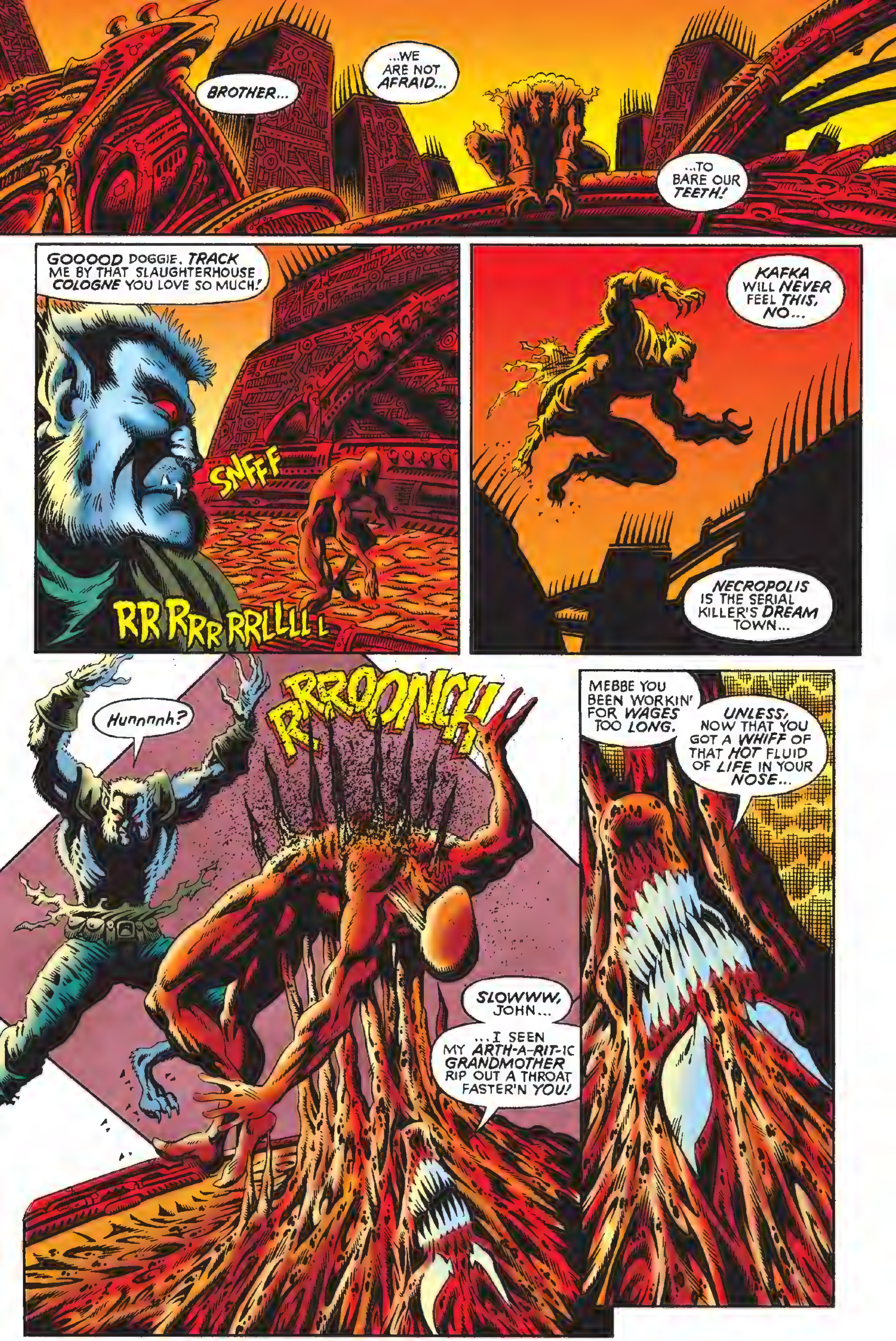

IMPRESSIVE, KASADY, HOW YOU MOVE US THROUGH YOUR IMAGINATION AT WILL!
OF COURSE, YOUR "CONTROL" IMPULSE AGAIN...
QUIET IN THE CHEAP SEATS. NEXT ON OUR ITINERARY IS...
...CIVILIZATION.
DO STOP ME IF THE PACE IS TOO BRISK...
WE'LL KEEP UP. YOU NEVER SPOKE OF STUDYING HISTORY...
Ahh, YES. HISTORY, WHERE THE TIME IS ALWAYS WAR-TIME SOMEWHERE...
...AND ALL THAT'S MEASURED IN THE END IS, Welllll...
BODY COUNT!!
ANY QUESTIONS?

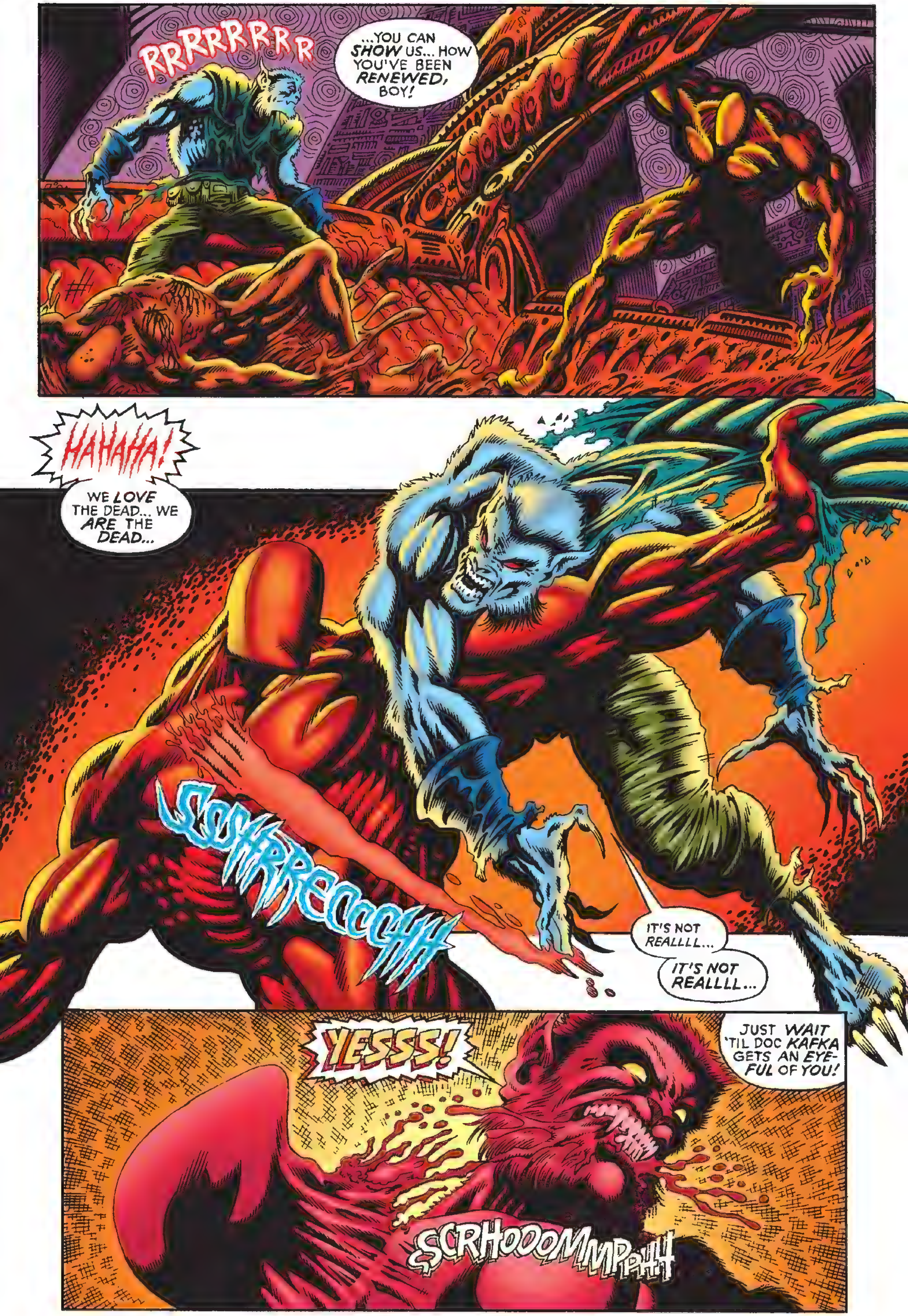

Keewwwlllgah!
SWISHH!
JOHN, JUST LET IT PASS! REMEMBER, HE'S ASSAULTING US ONLY MENTALLY!
NO ONE'S GETTING HURT BACK IN THE REAL WORLD!
RRRTTT
RRRTTT
GO ON, GO ON, IMPRESS ME WITH YOUR BRAIN... IT'S CANDY TO MY HUNGRY BLOOD!
FOOM
FOOM
Hmmmm... IT SEEMS I WAS SUPPOSED TO TELL YOU SOMETHING ABOUT THINKING, ASHLEY... Oh, well...
WUNTWUNTWUNT
AS YOU WERE, SOLDIER! I'LL TAKE THAT WEAPON!
CHOPFFF
PEACE IS OUR ROFESSIO

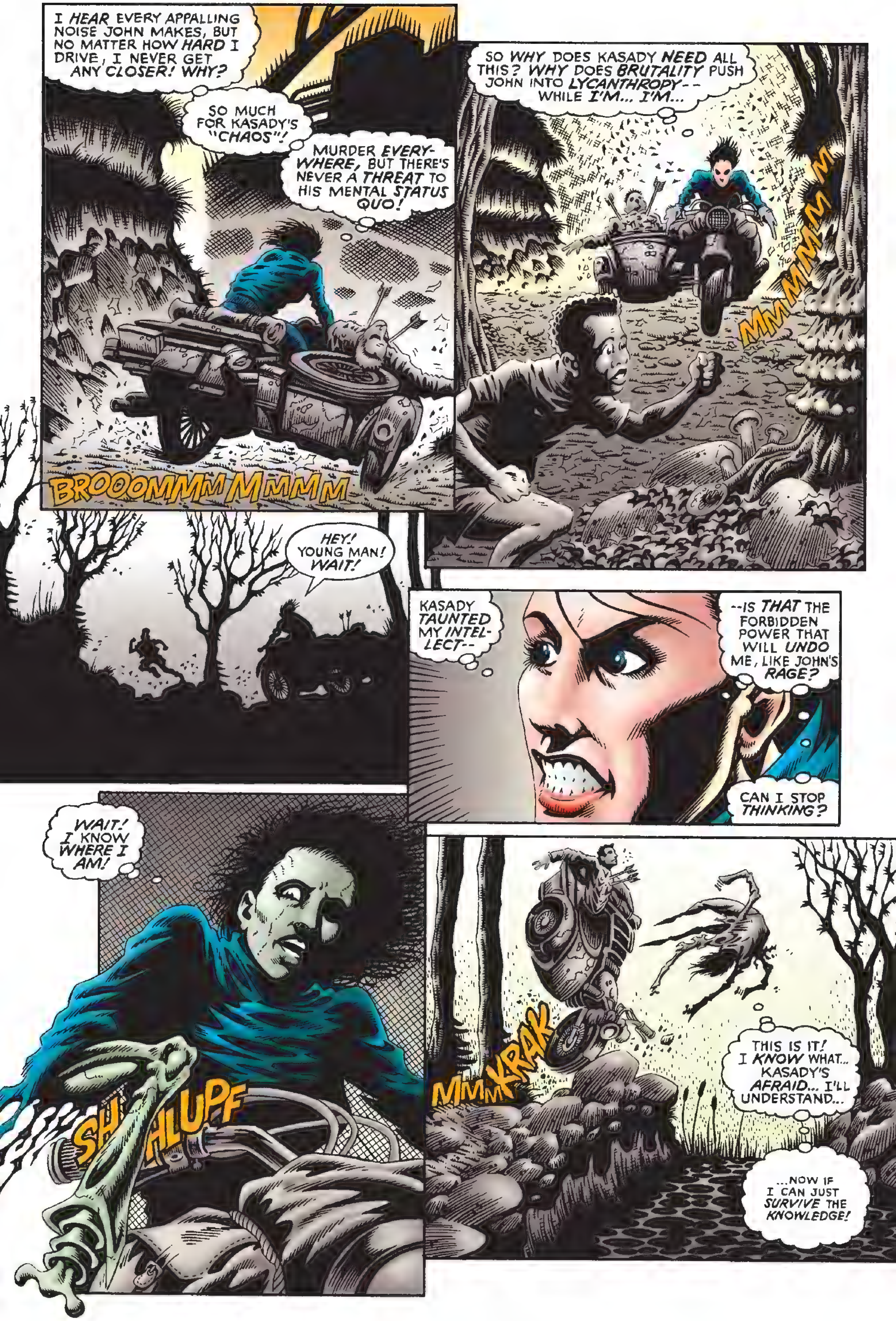

CIVILIZATION, KASADY, IS THE PROGRESSION OF KNOWLEDGE, OF THOUGHT, OF REASON, OF HEALING!
OF ARISTOTLE, BUDDHA, CHRIST, DEMOCRITUS, EDISON, FREUD, GOETHE, HEGEL, INOUYE, JUNG--
KASADY, LOVECRAFT, MANSON! LOOK AROUND YOU, SCUM! GET A SCORE-CARD!
HISTORY'S JUST A STORY TOLD BY WHOEVER CLAWED THEIR WAY TO THE TOP OF THE CARNAGE!
NONE OF THIS MATTERS.
Aww, NOW THERE'S A WINNING ATTITUDE! BACK IN THE WORLD, DID I WILT LIKE THAT DURING YOUR GAMES? Well, IF YOU WON'T PLAY...
I THINK BIG JOHN LIKES IT HERE! YEP, OUR BOY SEEMS TOUCHED BY SANITY!
YEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEHAH!
FLOSH
FLOSH
BRRTTT
BRRTTT
BRRTTT

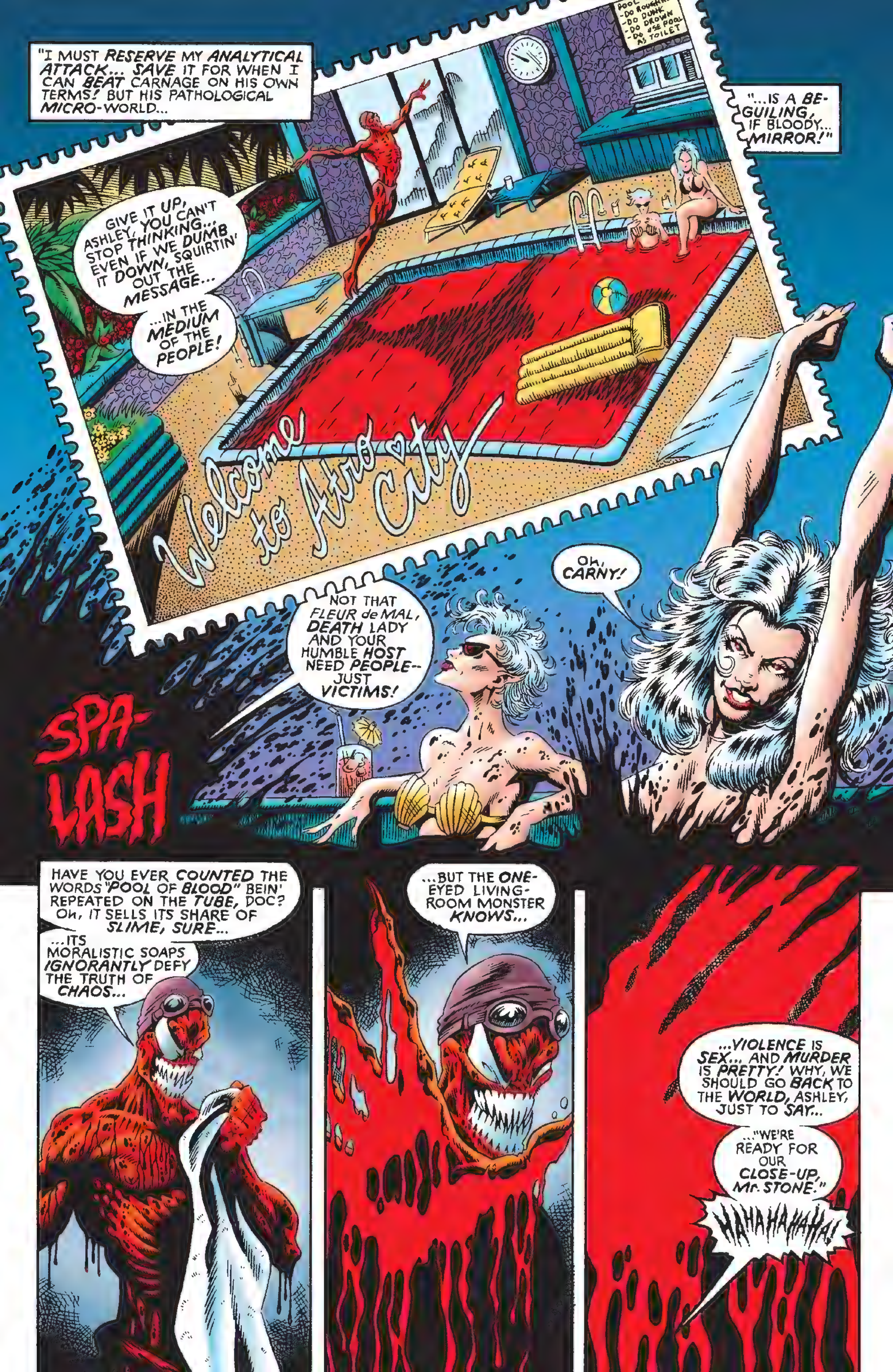

WHICH REMINDS US...
...TO BE A REAL SPORT... THERE WAS SOMETHING WE WANTED TO TELL JJ...
...ABOUT HIS AGGRESSION THING!
ARRR RRGHH!
Oh, no-- CAN'T BELIEVE-- THE OLD PAIN!
I FEEL IT, TOO, JOHN-- SOMETHING'S HAPPENING! BIOLOGICALLY, IT'S ONTOGENY.
--I MEAN, WHAT WE DO HERE, SURRENDERING TO OUR BASIC URGES... CHANGES WHAT WE ARE!
BUT ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS ESCAPE! LET CARNAGE RULE HIS BLOODSTAINED PLAYGROUND, WE'LL--
Unnnngh NO! WE WENT WITH YOUR GUT LAST TIME. THIS CALL'S MINE!
I'LL MAKE HIM STOP LAUGHING. I CAN... KILL HIM... HERE...
I FEEL... BETTER HERE...
JOHN Oh no, oh NO...
I DON'T THINK... OUR URGES... ARE...
...GOOD FOR US... RIGHT NOW.

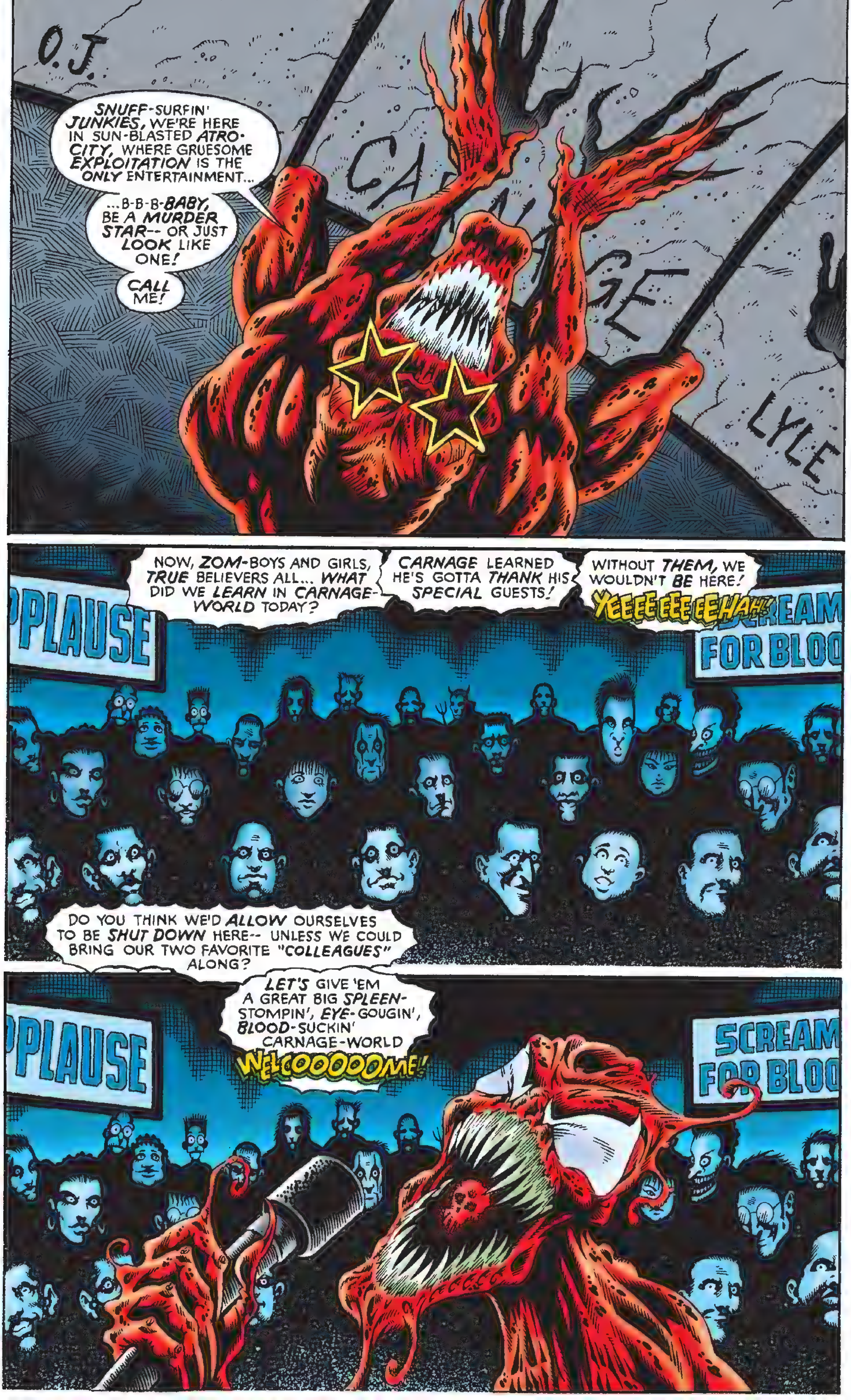

LOOK, MY HANDS! JOHN!
rrrrrrr...
BORED, CHILDREN? I'M THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BORED!
AREN'T YOU BORED, JOHN? COME ON! ATTABOY!
JOHN'S ALMOST GONE ...UNLESS...
DON'T LISTEN TO KAFKA! WHAT DOES SHE KNOW ABOUT THE THROBBIN' PUMPED THRILL OF A FRESH KILL?
'SIDES, THESE BOYS'RE STARTIN' TO GO RIPE ON US! COME STALK ME... IN A TOWN JUST MADE FOR STALKIN'!
NECROPOLIS!
I'LLLL... KILLL...
JOHN, NO!

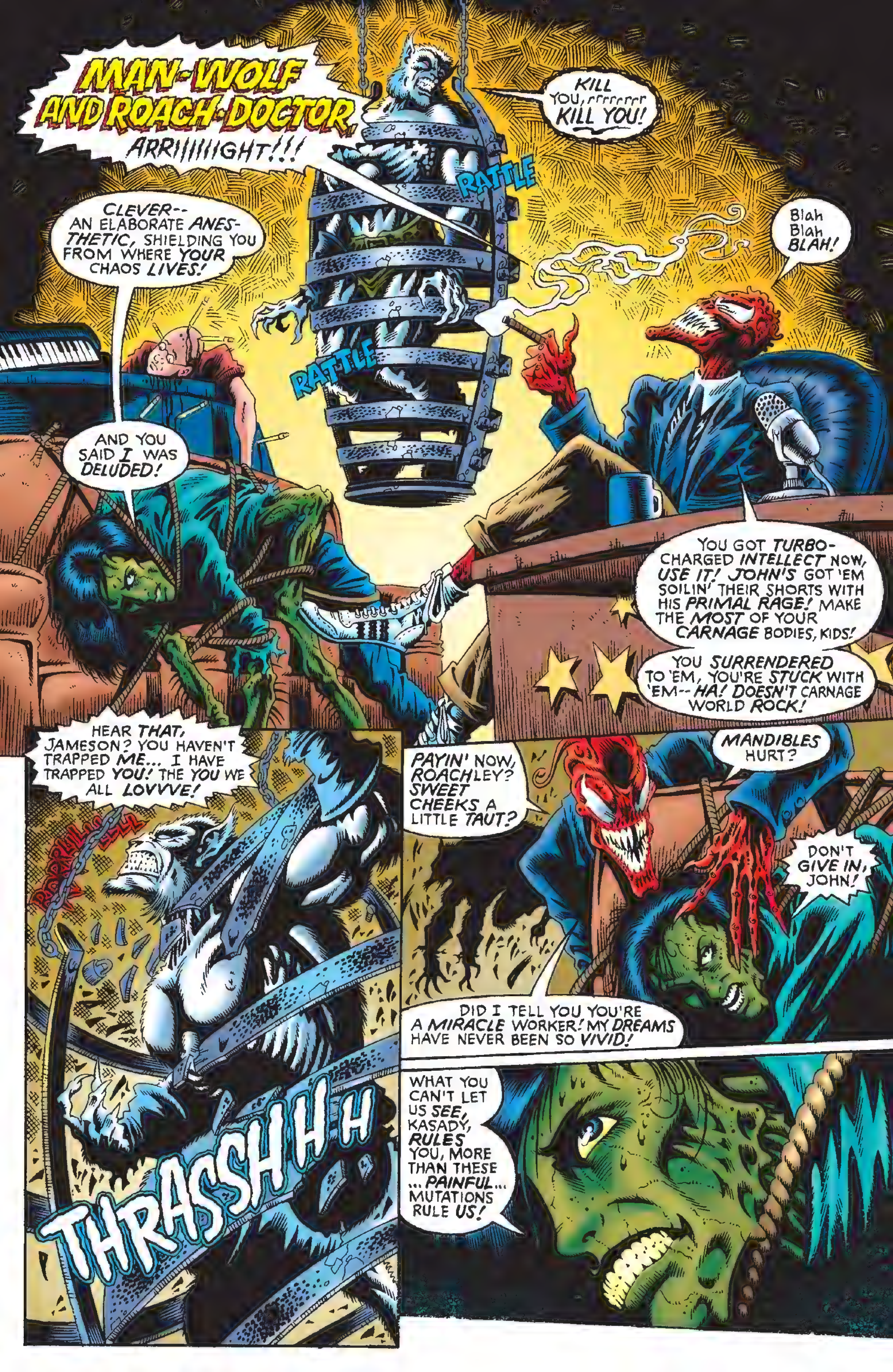

BROTHER...
...WE ARE NOT AFRAID...
...TO BARE OUR TEETH!
GOOOOD DOGGIE. TRACK ME BY THAT SLAUGHTERHOUSE COLOGNE YOU LOVE SO MUCH!
SNFFF
RR RRR RRLLLL L
KAFKA WILL NEVER FEEL THIS, NO...
NECROPOLIS IS THE SERIAL KILLER'S DREAM TOWN...
Hunnnnh?
RRROONCH
SLOWWW, JOHN...
...I SEEN MY ARTH-A-RIT-IC GRANDMOTHER RIP OUT A THROAT FASTER'N YOU!
MEBBE YOU BEEN WORKIN' FOR WAGES TOO LONG.
UNLESS, NOW THAT YOU GOT A WHIFF OF THAT HOT FLUID OF LIFE IN YOUR NOSE...

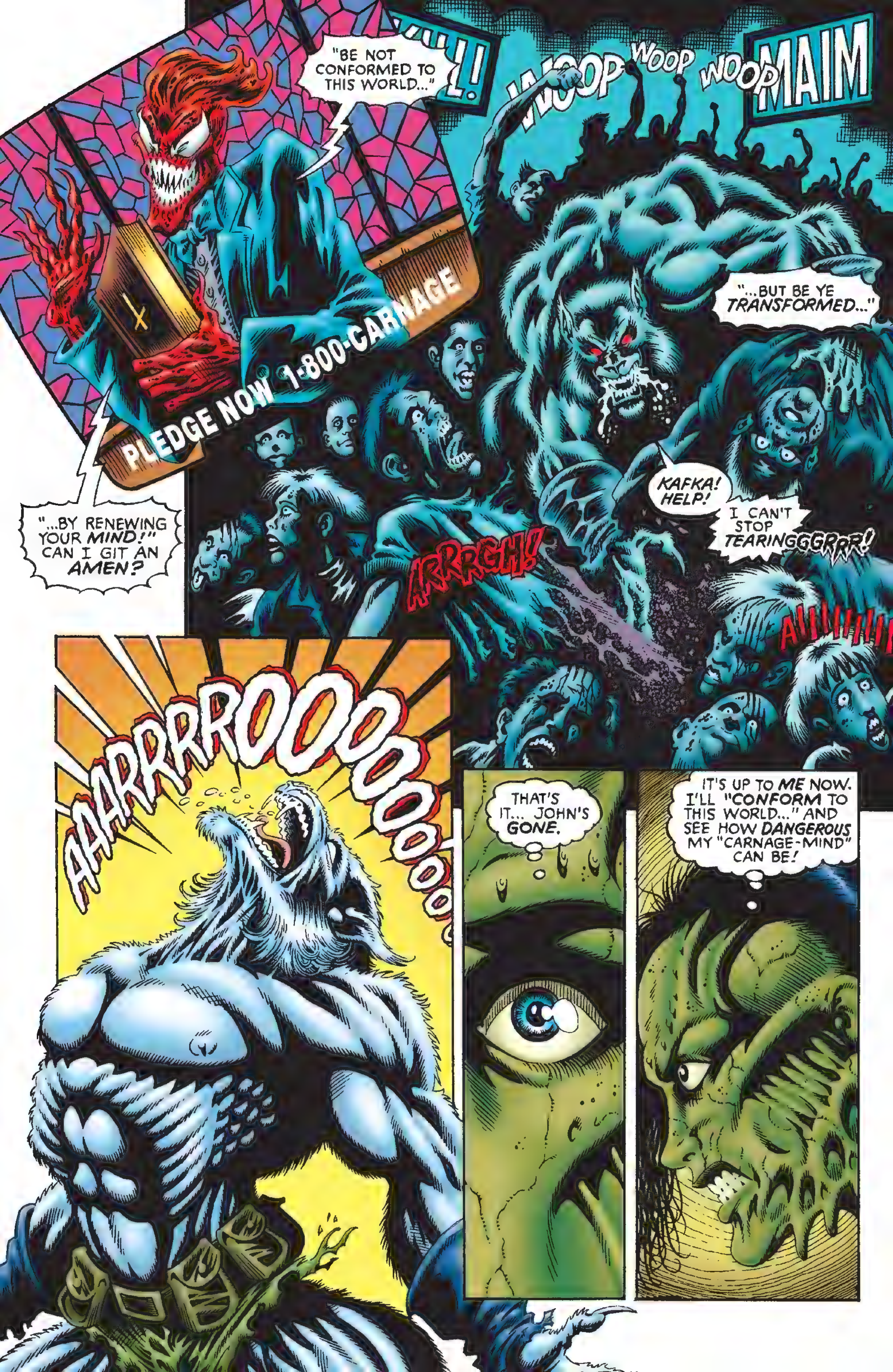

RRRRRRRRR
...YOU CAN SHOW US... HOW YOU'VE BEEN RENEWED, BOY!
HAHAHA!
WE LOVE THE DEAD... WE ARE THE DEAD...
SSSHRRECCCHH
IT'S NOT REALLLL...
IT'S NOT REALLLL...
YESSS!
JUST WAIT 'TIL DOC KAFKA GETS AN EYE-FUL OF YOU!
SCRHOOOMMPHH

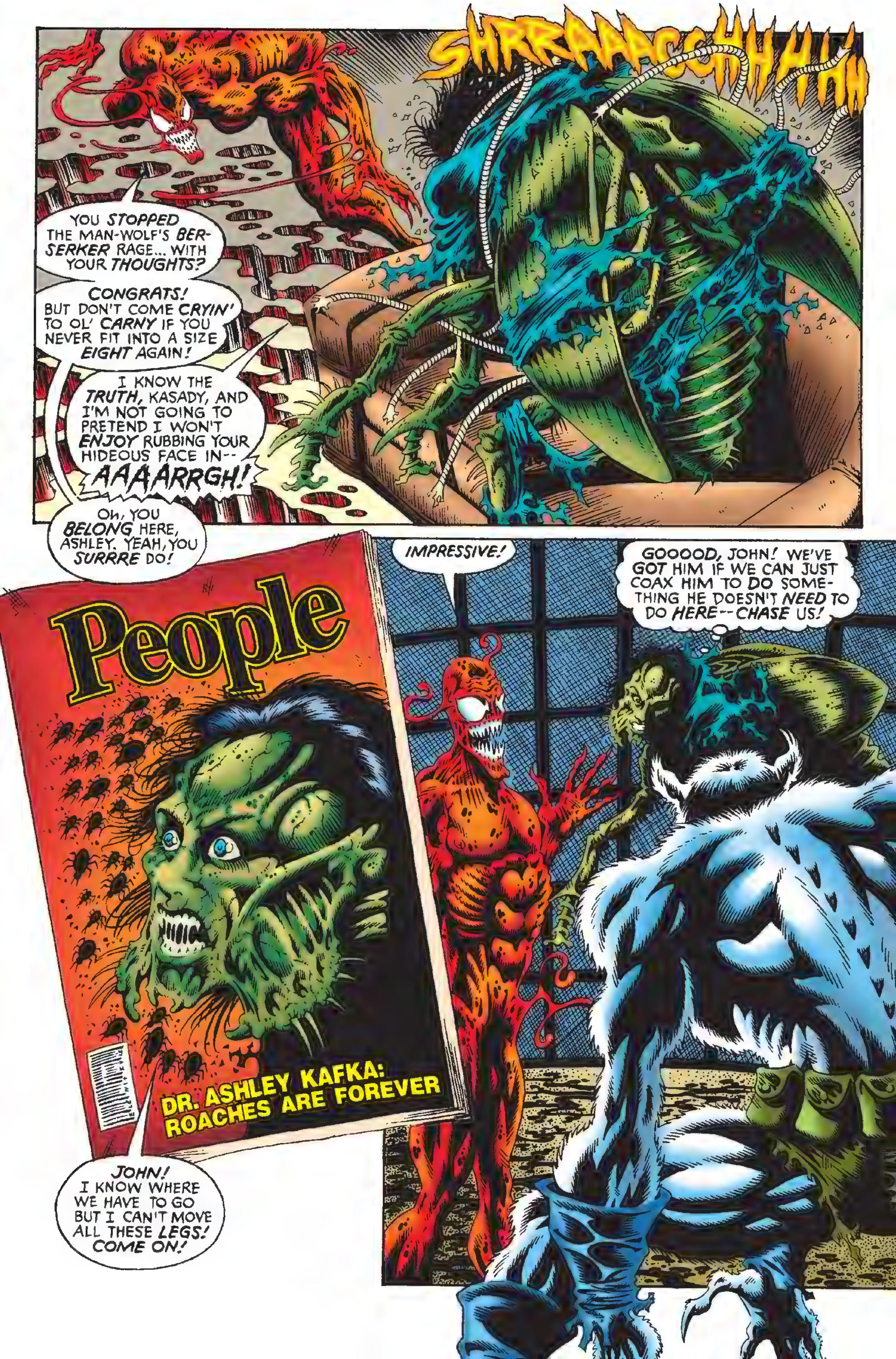

I HEAR EVERY APPALLING NOISE JOHN MAKES, BUT NO MATTER HOW HARD I DRIVE, I NEVER GET ANY CLOSER! WHY?
SO MUCH FOR KASADY'S "CHAOS"!
MURDER EVERYWHERE, BUT THERE'S NEVER A THREAT TO HIS MENTAL STATUS QUO!
BROOOMMMMMMMM
SO WHY DOES KASADY NEED ALL THIS? WHY DOES BRUTALITY PUSH JOHN INTO LYCANTHROPY--WHILE I'M... I'M...
MMMMMMM
HEY! YOUNG MAN! WAIT!
KASADY TAUNTED MY INTELLECT--
--IS THAT THE FORBIDDEN POWER THAT WILL UNDO ME, LIKE JOHN'S RAGE?
CAN I STOP THINKING?
WAIT! I KNOW WHERE I AM!
SHHLUPF
MMMKRAK
THIS IS IT! I KNOW WHAT... KASADY'S AFRAID... I'LL UNDERSTAND...
...NOW IF I CAN JUST SURVIVE THE KNOWLEDGE!

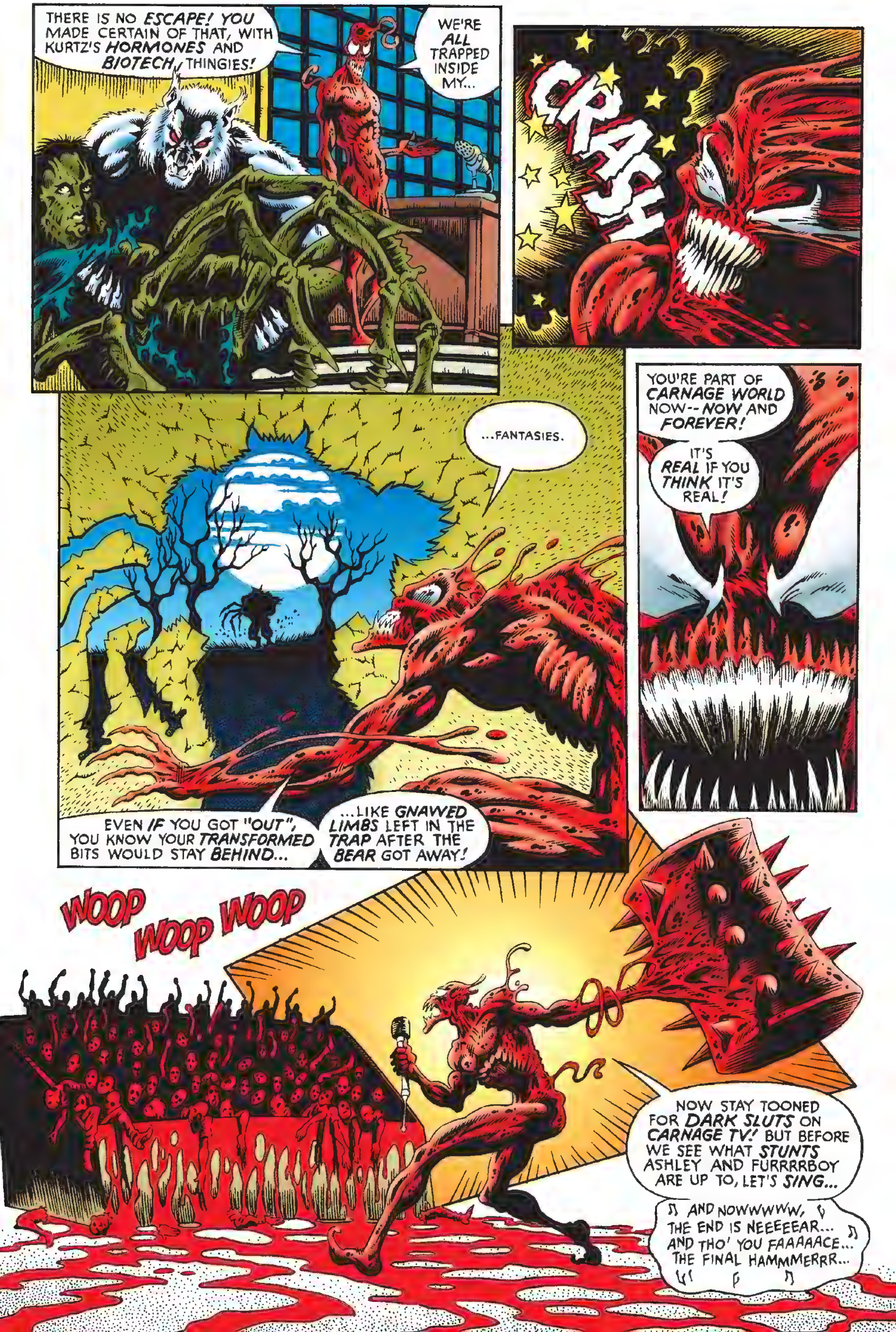

"I MUST RESERVE MY ANALYTICAL ATTACK... SAVE IT FOR WHEN I CAN BEAT CARNAGE ON HIS OWN TERMS! BUT HIS PATHOLOGICAL MICRO-WORLD...
POOL -DO ROUGH -DO DUNK -DO DROWN -DO USE POOL AS TOILET
"...IS A BEGUILING, IF BLOODY... MIRROR!"
GIVE IT UP, ASHLEY, YOU CAN'T STOP THINKING... EVEN IF WE DUMB IT DOWN, SQUIRTIN' OUT THE MESSAGE...
...IN THE MEDIUM OF THE PEOPLE!
Welcome to Atro♡City
OH, CARNY!
NOT THAT FLEUR de MAL, DEATH LADY AND YOUR HUMBLE HOST NEED PEOPLE-- JUST VICTIMS!
SPA-LASH
HAVE YOU EVER COUNTED THE WORDS "POOL OF BLOOD" BEIN' REPEATED ON THE TUBE, DOC? OH, IT SELLS ITS SHARE OF SLIME, SURE...
...ITS MORALISTIC SOAPS IGNORANTLY DEFY THE TRUTH OF CHAOS...
...BUT THE ONE-EYED LIVING-ROOM MONSTER KNOWS...
...VIOLENCE IS SEX... AND MURDER IS PRETTY! WHY, WE SHOULD GO BACK TO THE WORLD, ASHLEY, JUST TO SAY...
..."WE'RE READY FOR OUR CLOSE-UP, MR. STONE."
HAHAHAHAHA!

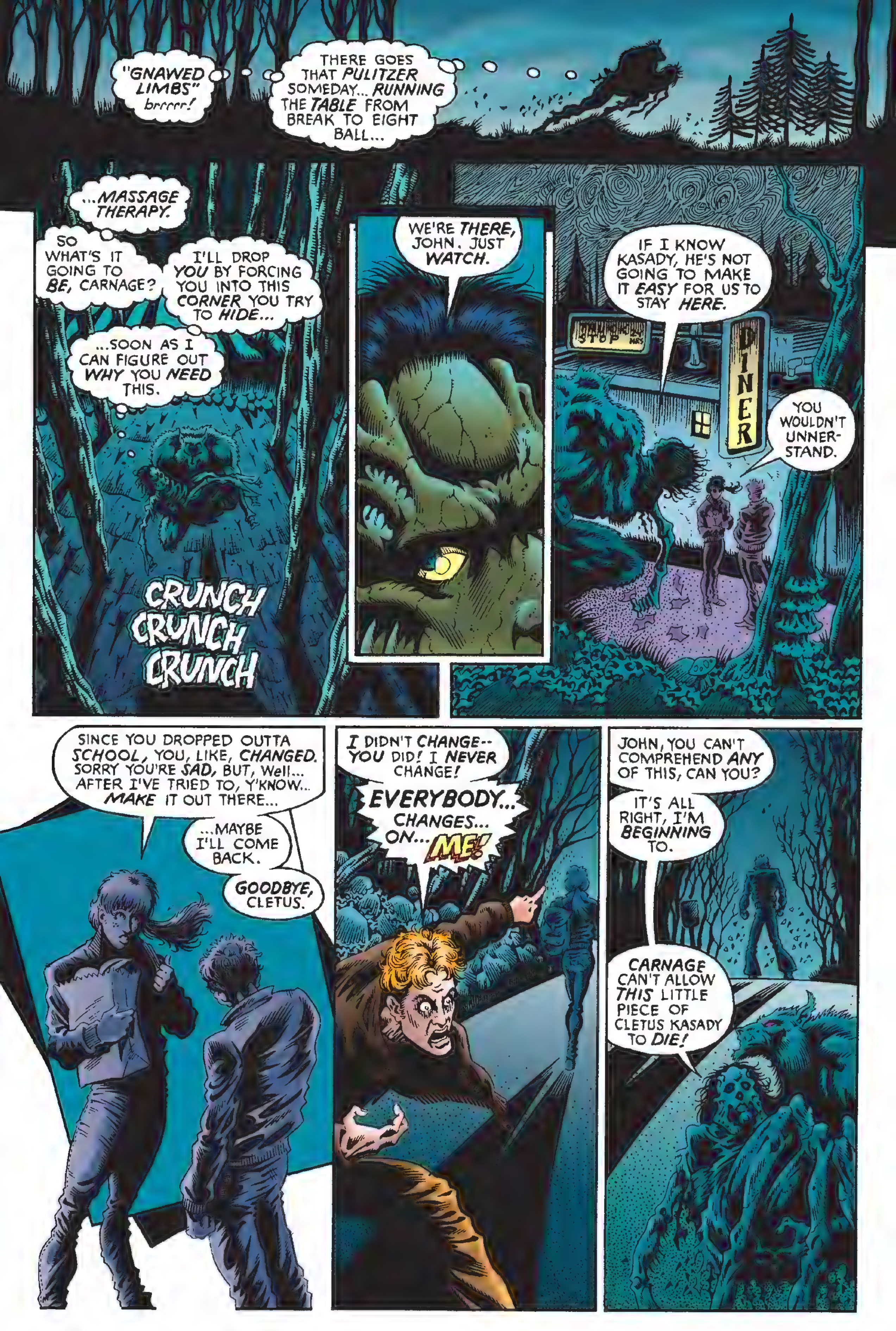

O.J.
SNUFF-SURFIN' JUNKIES, WE'RE HERE IN SUN-BLASTED ATRO-CITY, WHERE GRUESOME EXPLOITATION IS THE ONLY ENTERTAINMENT...
...B-B-B-BABY, BE A MURDER STAR-- OR JUST LOOK LIKE ONE!
CALL ME!
LYLE
NOW, ZOM-BOYS AND GIRLS, TRUE BELIEVERS ALL... WHAT DID WE LEARN IN CARNAGE-WORLD TODAY?
CARNAGE LEARNED HE'S GOTTA THANK HIS SPECIAL GUESTS!
WITHOUT THEM, WE WOULDN'T BE HERE!
YEEEEEEEEEEHAH!!
PPLAUSE
FOR BLOO
DO YOU THINK WE'D ALLOW OURSELVES TO BE SHUT DOWN HERE-- UNLESS WE COULD BRING OUR TWO FAVORITE "COLLEAGUES" ALONG?
LET'S GIVE 'EM A GREAT BIG SPLEEN-STOMPIN', EYE-GOUGIN', BLOOD-SUCKIN' CARNAGE-WORLD WELCOOOOOOME!
PPLAUSE
SCREAM FOR BLOO

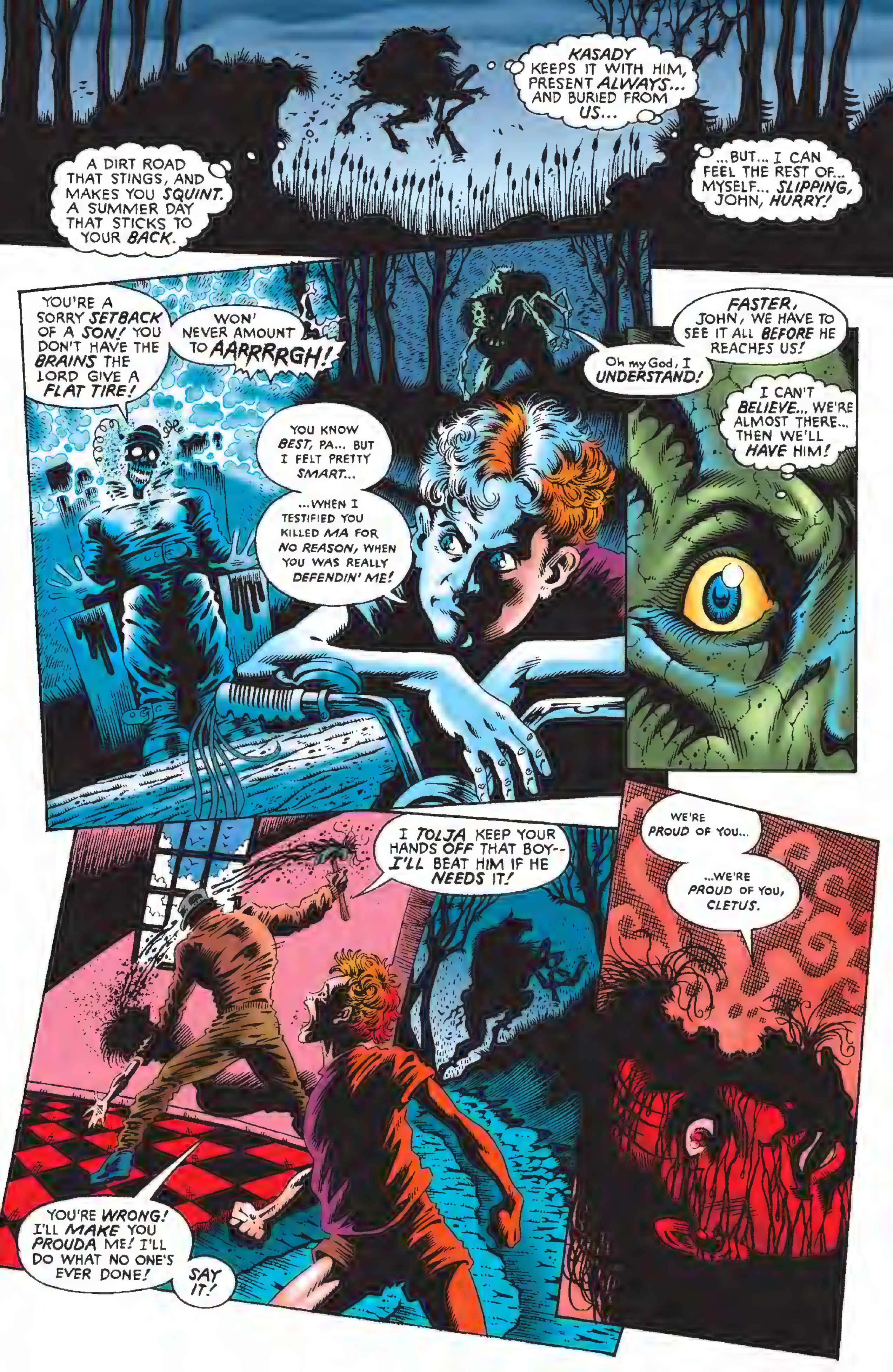

MAN-WOLF AND ROACH-DOCTOR, ARRIIIIIIGHT!!!
KILL YOU, rrrrrrr KILL YOU!
RATTLE
CLEVER-- AN ELABORATE ANESTHETIC, SHIELDING YOU FROM WHERE YOUR CHAOS LIVES!
Blah Blah BLAH!
RATTLE
AND YOU SAID I WAS DELUDED!
YOU GOT TURBO-CHARGED INTELLECT NOW, USE IT! JOHN'S GOT 'EM SOILIN' THEIR SHORTS WITH HIS PRIMAL RAGE! MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR CARNAGE BODIES, KIDS!
YOU SURRENDERED TO 'EM, YOU'RE STUCK WITH 'EM-- HA! DOESN'T CARNAGE WORLD ROCK!
HEAR THAT, JAMESON? YOU HAVEN'T TRAPPED ME... I HAVE TRAPPED YOU! THE YOU WE ALL LOVVVE!
RRRAUULL GGLL
THRASSHHH
PAYIN' NOW, ROACHLEY? SWEET CHEEKS A LITTLE TAUT?
MANDIBLES HURT?
DON'T GIVE IN, JOHN!
DID I TELL YOU YOU'RE A MIRACLE WORKER! MY DREAMS HAVE NEVER BEEN SO VIVID!
WHAT YOU CAN'T LET US SEE, KASADY, RULES YOU, MORE THAN THESE ...PAINFUL... MUTATIONS RULE US!

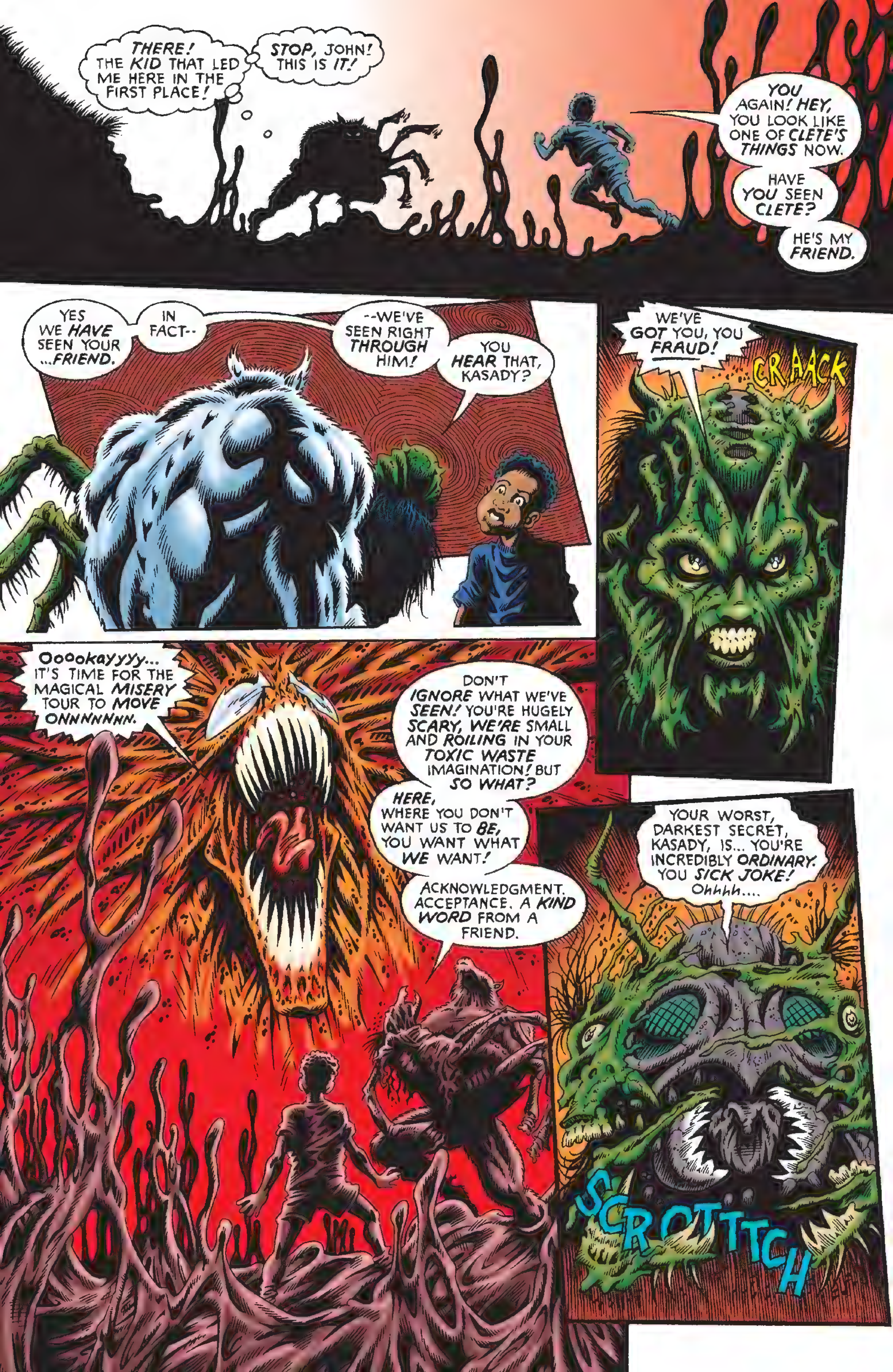

"BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD..."
WOOP WOOP WOOP
MAIM
PLEDGE NOW 1-800-CARNAGE
"...BUT BE YE *TRANSFORMED*..."
"...BY RENEWING YOUR *MIND!*" CAN I GIT AN *AMEN?*
KAFKA! HELP!
I CAN'T STOP *TEARINGGGRRR!*
ARRRGH!
AIIIIIIII
AAARRRROOOOOOOOOO
THAT'S IT... JOHN'S *GONE.*
IT'S UP TO *ME* NOW. I'LL "*CONFORM* TO THIS WORLD..." AND SEE HOW *DANGEROUS* MY "CARNAGE-MIND" CAN BE!

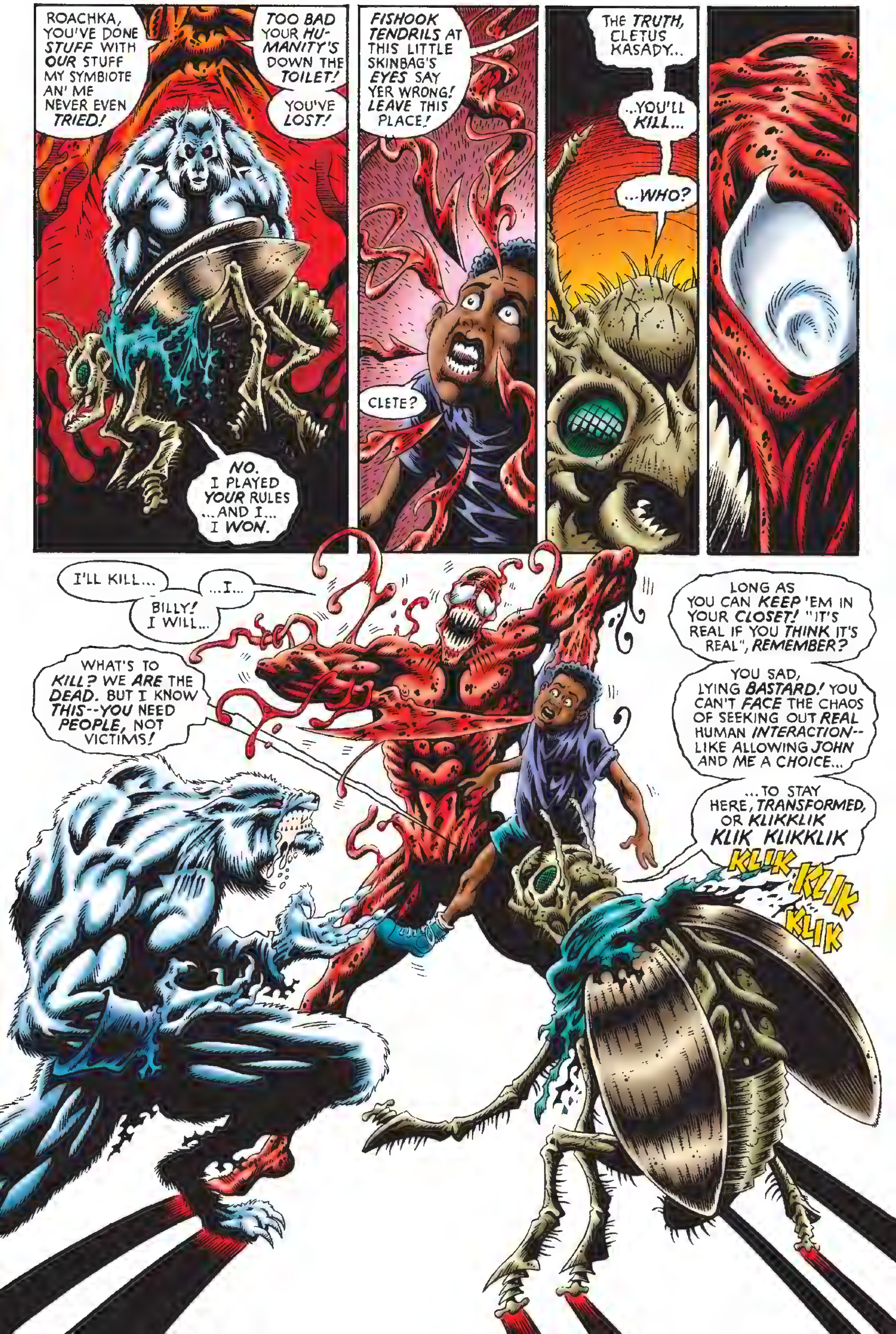

SHRRAAACCHHHHH
YOU STOPPED THE MAN-WOLF'S BERSERKER RAGE... WITH YOUR THOUGHTS?
CONGRATS! BUT DON'T COME CRYIN' TO OL' CARNY IF YOU NEVER FIT INTO A SIZE EIGHT AGAIN!
I KNOW THE TRUTH, KASADY, AND I'M NOT GOING TO PRETEND I WON'T ENJOY RUBBING YOUR HIDEOUS FACE IN-- AAAARRGH!
OH, YOU BELONG HERE, ASHLEY. YEAH, YOU SURRRE DO!
People
DR. ASHLEY KAFKA: ROACHES ARE FOREVER
IMPRESSIVE!
GOOOOD, JOHN! WE'VE GOT HIM IF WE CAN JUST COAX HIM TO DO SOMETHING HE DOESN'T NEED TO DO HERE--CHASE US!
JOHN! I KNOW WHERE WE HAVE TO GO BUT I CAN'T MOVE ALL THESE LEGS! COME ON!

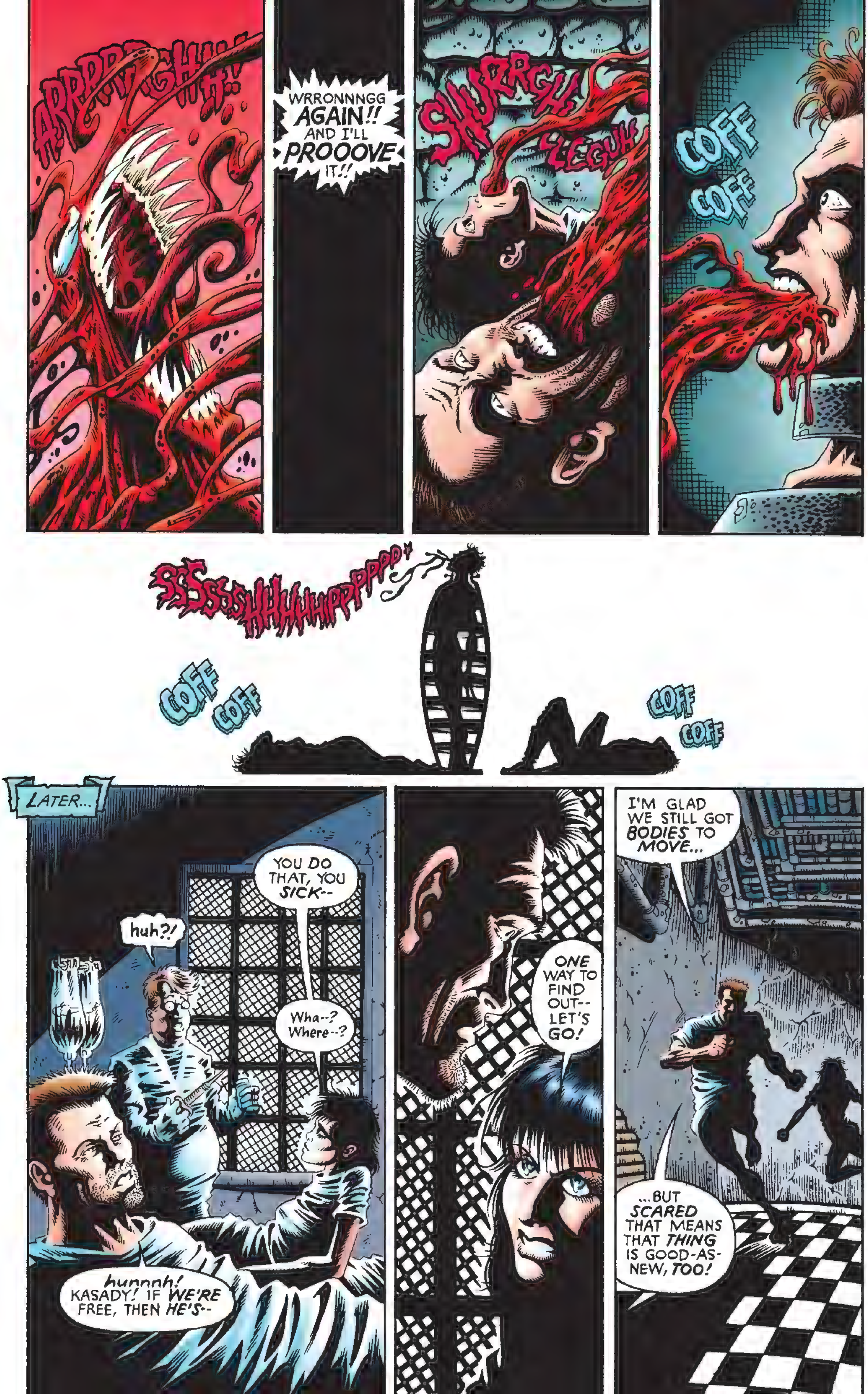

THERE IS NO ESCAPE! YOU MADE CERTAIN OF THAT, WITH KURTZ'S HORMONES AND BIOTECH, THINGIES!
WE'RE ALL TRAPPED INSIDE MY...
CRASH
...FANTASIES.
EVEN IF YOU GOT "OUT", YOU KNOW YOUR TRANSFORMED BITS WOULD STAY BEHIND...
...LIKE GNAWED LIMBS LEFT IN THE TRAP AFTER THE BEAR GOT AWAY!
YOU'RE PART OF CARNAGE WORLD NOW-- NOW AND FOREVER!
IT'S REAL IF YOU THINK IT'S REAL!
WOOP WOOP WOOP
NOW STAY TOONED FOR DARK SLUTS ON CARNAGE TV! BUT BEFORE WE SEE WHAT STUNTS ASHLEY AND FURRRRBOY ARE UP TO, LET'S SING...
♫ AND NOWWWWW, THE END IS NEEEEEAR... AND THO' YOU FAAAAACE... THE FINAL HAMMMERRR... ♫

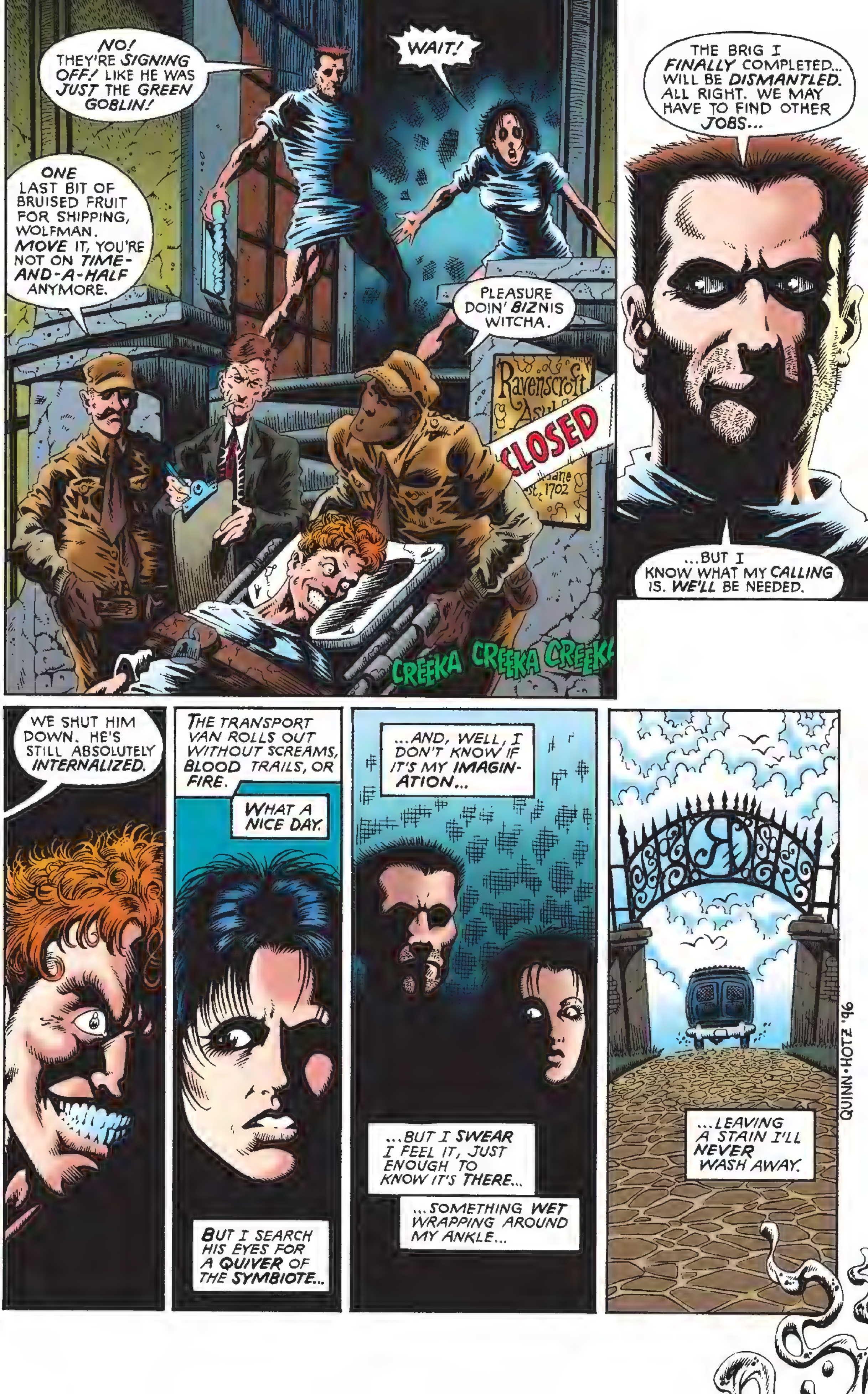

"GNAWED LIMBS" brrrrr!
THERE GOES THAT PULITZER SOMEDAY... RUNNING THE TABLE FROM BREAK TO EIGHT BALL...
...MASSAGE THERAPY.
SO WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE, CARNAGE?
I'LL DROP YOU BY FORCING YOU INTO THIS CORNER YOU TRY TO HIDE...
...SOON AS I CAN FIGURE OUT WHY YOU NEED THIS.
CRUNCH CRUNCH CRUNCH
WE'RE THERE, JOHN. JUST WATCH.
IF I KNOW KASADY, HE'S NOT GOING TO MAKE IT EASY FOR US TO STAY HERE.
STOP
HRS.
DINER
YOU WOULDN'T UNNER-STAND.
SINCE YOU DROPPED OUTTA SCHOOL, YOU, LIKE, CHANGED. SORRY YOU'RE SAD, BUT, Well... AFTER I'VE TRIED TO, Y'KNOW... MAKE IT OUT THERE...
...MAYBE I'LL COME BACK.
GOODBYE, CLETUS.
I DIDN'T CHANGE-- YOU DID! I NEVER CHANGE!
EVERYBODY... CHANGES... ON... ME!
JOHN, YOU CAN'T COMPREHEND ANY OF THIS, CAN YOU?
IT'S ALL RIGHT, I'M BEGINNING TO.
CARNAGE CAN'T ALLOW THIS LITTLE PIECE OF CLETUS KASADY TO DIE!


KASADY KEEPS IT WITH HIM, PRESENT ALWAYS... AND BURIED FROM US...
A DIRT ROAD THAT STINGS, AND MAKES YOU SQUINT. A SUMMER DAY THAT STICKS TO YOUR BACK.
...BUT... I CAN FEEL THE REST OF... MYSELF... SLIPPING, JOHN, HURRY!
YOU'RE A SORRY SETBACK OF A SON! YOU DON'T HAVE THE BRAINS THE LORD GIVE A FLAT TIRE!
WON' NEVER AMOUNT TO AARRRRGH!
YOU KNOW BEST, PA... BUT I FELT PRETTY SMART...
...WHEN I TESTIFIED YOU KILLED MA FOR NO REASON, WHEN YOU WAS REALLY DEFENDIN' ME!
FASTER, JOHN, WE HAVE TO SEE IT ALL BEFORE HE REACHES US!
Oh my God, I UNDERSTAND!
I CAN'T BELIEVE... WE'RE ALMOST THERE... THEN WE'LL HAVE HIM!
I TOLJA KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF THAT BOY-- I'LL BEAT HIM IF HE NEEDS IT!
YOU'RE WRONG! I'LL MAKE YOU PROUDA ME! I'LL DO WHAT NO ONE'S EVER DONE!
SAY IT!
WE'RE PROUD OF YOU...
...WE'RE PROUD OF YOU, CLETUS.

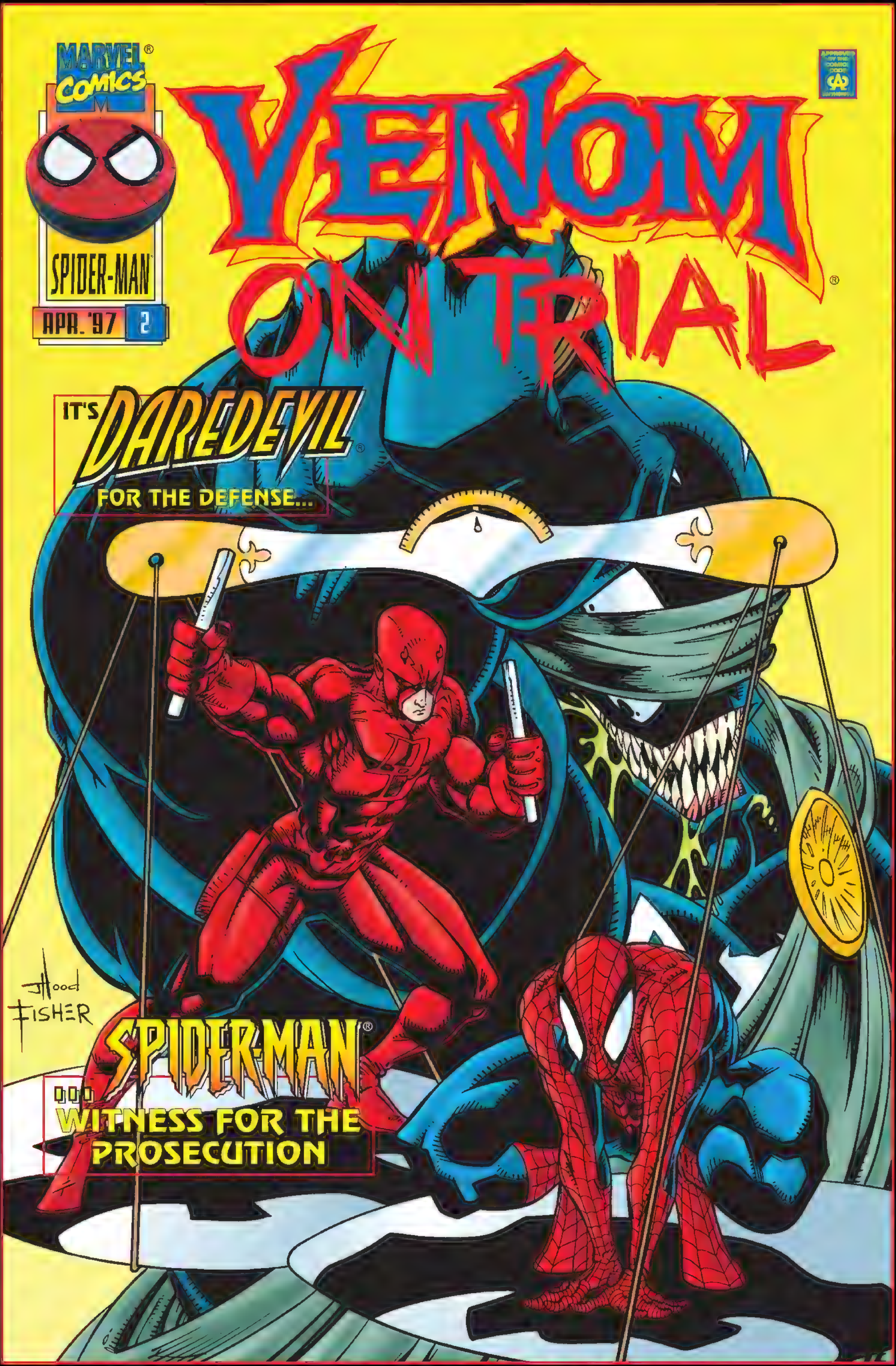

THERE! THE KID THAT LED ME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE!
STOP, JOHN! THIS IS IT!
YOU AGAIN! HEY, YOU LOOK LIKE ONE OF CLETE'S THINGS NOW.
HAVE YOU SEEN CLETE?
HE'S MY FRIEND.
YES WE HAVE SEEN YOUR ...FRIEND.
IN FACT--
--WE'VE SEEN RIGHT THROUGH HIM!
YOU HEAR THAT, KASADY?
WE'VE GOT YOU, YOU FRAUD!
CRAACK
Ooookayyyy... IT'S TIME FOR THE MAGICAL MISERY TOUR TO MOVE ONNNNNNN.
DON'T IGNORE WHAT WE'VE SEEN! YOU'RE HUGELY SCARY, WE'RE SMALL AND ROILING IN YOUR TOXIC WASTE IMAGINATION! BUT SO WHAT?
HERE, WHERE YOU DON'T WANT US TO BE, YOU WANT WHAT WE WANT!
ACKNOWLEDGMENT. ACCEPTANCE. A KIND WORD FROM A FRIEND.
YOUR WORST, DARKEST SECRET, KASADY, IS... YOU'RE INCREDIBLY ORDINARY. YOU SICK JOKE! Ohhhh....
SCROTTTCH

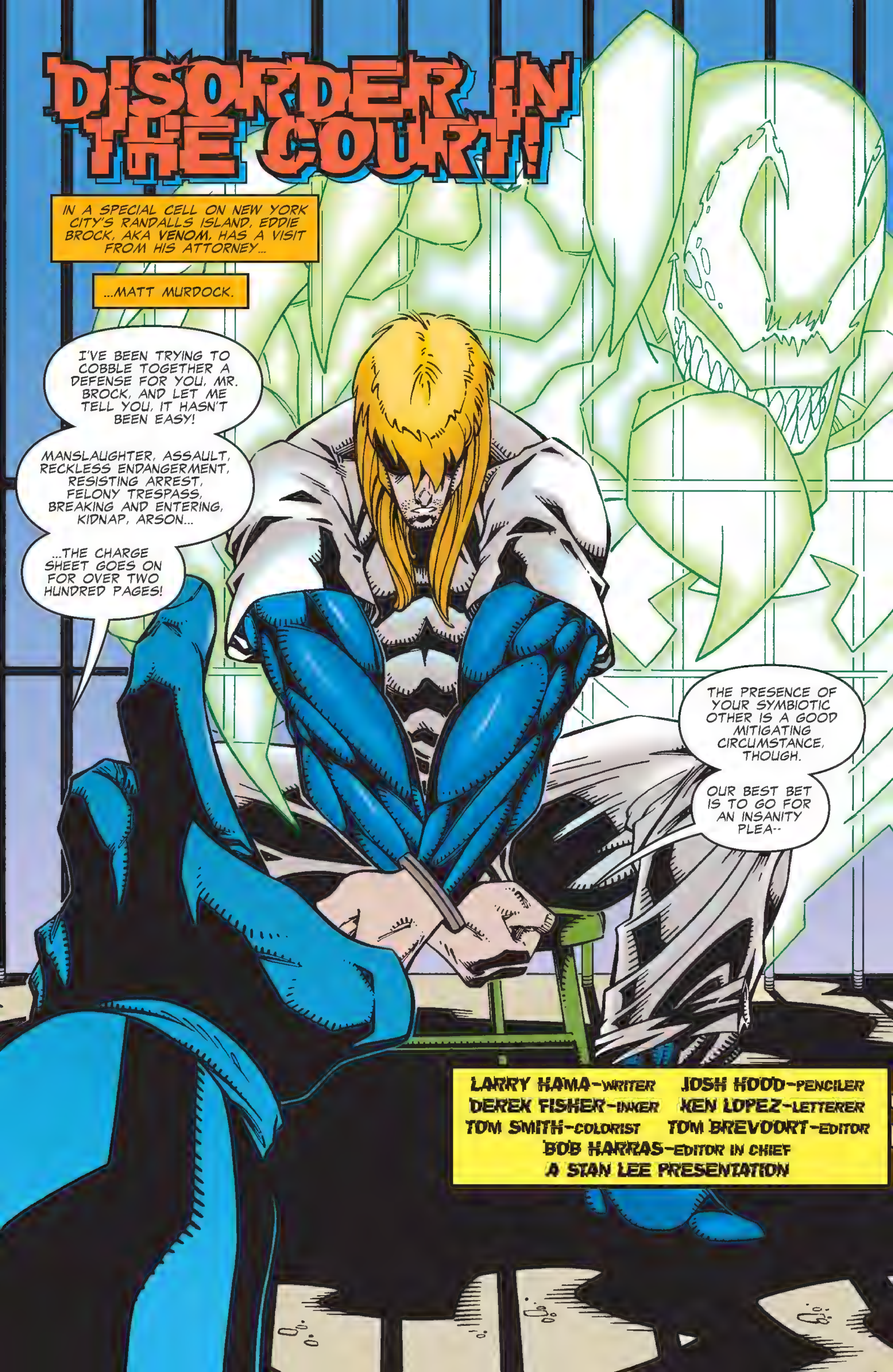

ROACHKA, YOU'VE DONE STUFF WITH OUR STUFF MY SYMBIOTE AN' ME NEVER EVEN TRIED!
TOO BAD YOUR HUMANITY'S DOWN THE TOILET!
YOU'VE LOST!
NO. I PLAYED YOUR RULES ...AND I... I WON.
FISHOOK TENDRILS AT THIS LITTLE SKINBAG'S EYES SAY YER WRONG! LEAVE THIS PLACE!
CLETE?
THE TRUTH, CLETUS KASADY...
...YOU'LL KILL...
...WHO?
I'LL KILL...
...I...
BILLY! I WILL...
WHAT'S TO KILL? WE ARE THE DEAD. BUT I KNOW THIS--YOU NEED PEOPLE, NOT VICTIMS!
LONG AS YOU CAN KEEP 'EM IN YOUR CLOSET! "IT'S REAL IF YOU THINK IT'S REAL", REMEMBER?
YOU SAD, LYING BASTARD! YOU CAN'T FACE THE CHAOS OF SEEKING OUT REAL HUMAN INTERACTION--LIKE ALLOWING JOHN AND ME A CHOICE...
...TO STAY HERE, TRANSFORMED, OR KLIKKLIK KLIK KLIKKLIK
KLIK KLIK KLIK

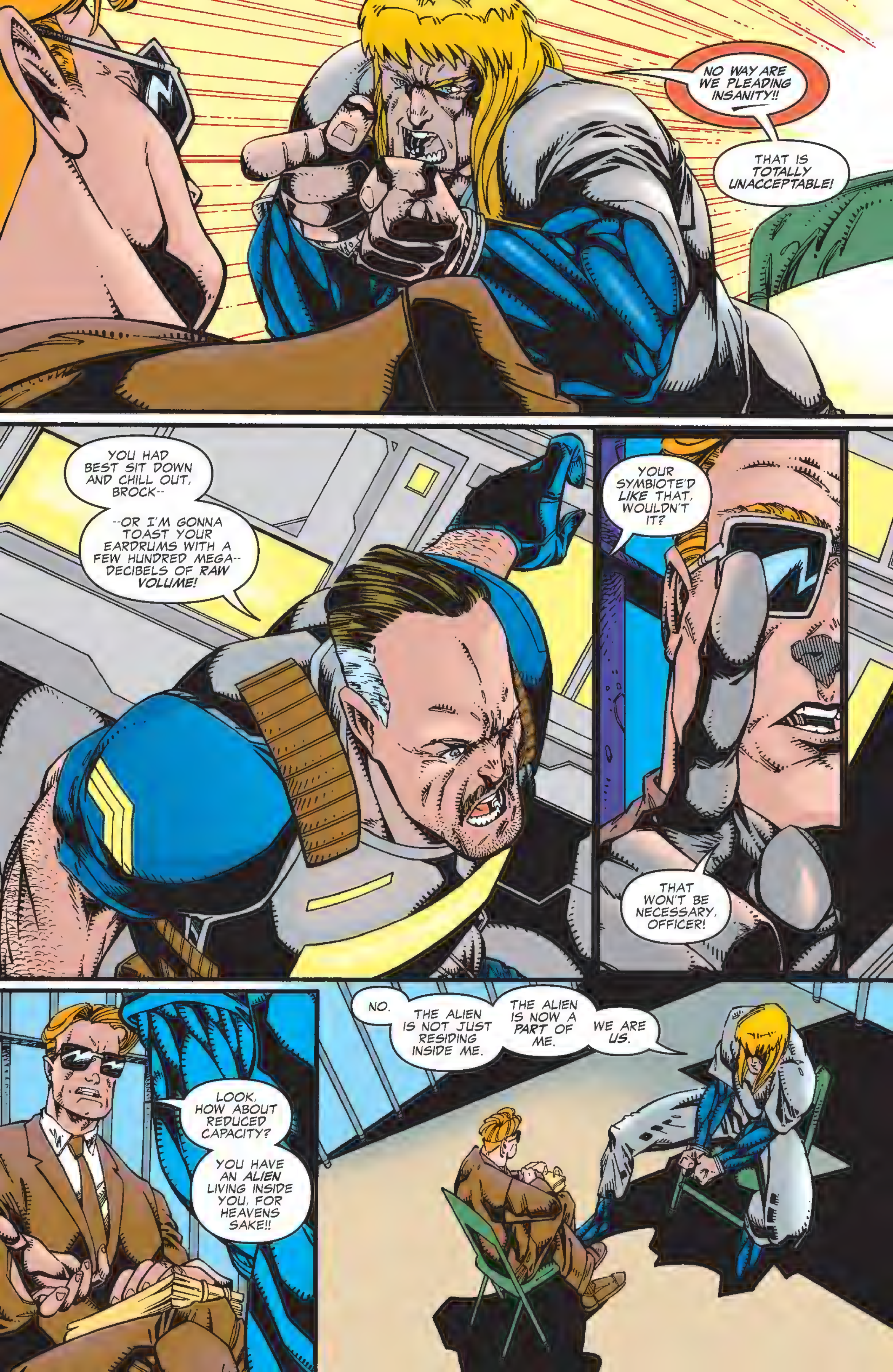

ARRRRGH!!!
WRRONNNGG AGAIN!! AND I'LL PROOOVE IT!!
SHRRGH!
LEGUH
COFF COFF
SSSSSSHHHHHIPPPPPP!
COFF COFF
COFF COFF
LATER...
YOU DO THAT, YOU SICK--
huh?!
Wha--? Where--?
hunnnh! KASADY! IF WE'RE FREE, THEN HE'S--
ONE WAY TO FIND OUT--LET'S GO!
I'M GLAD WE STILL GOT BODIES TO MOVE...
...BUT SCARED THAT MEANS THAT THING IS GOOD-AS-NEW, TOO!

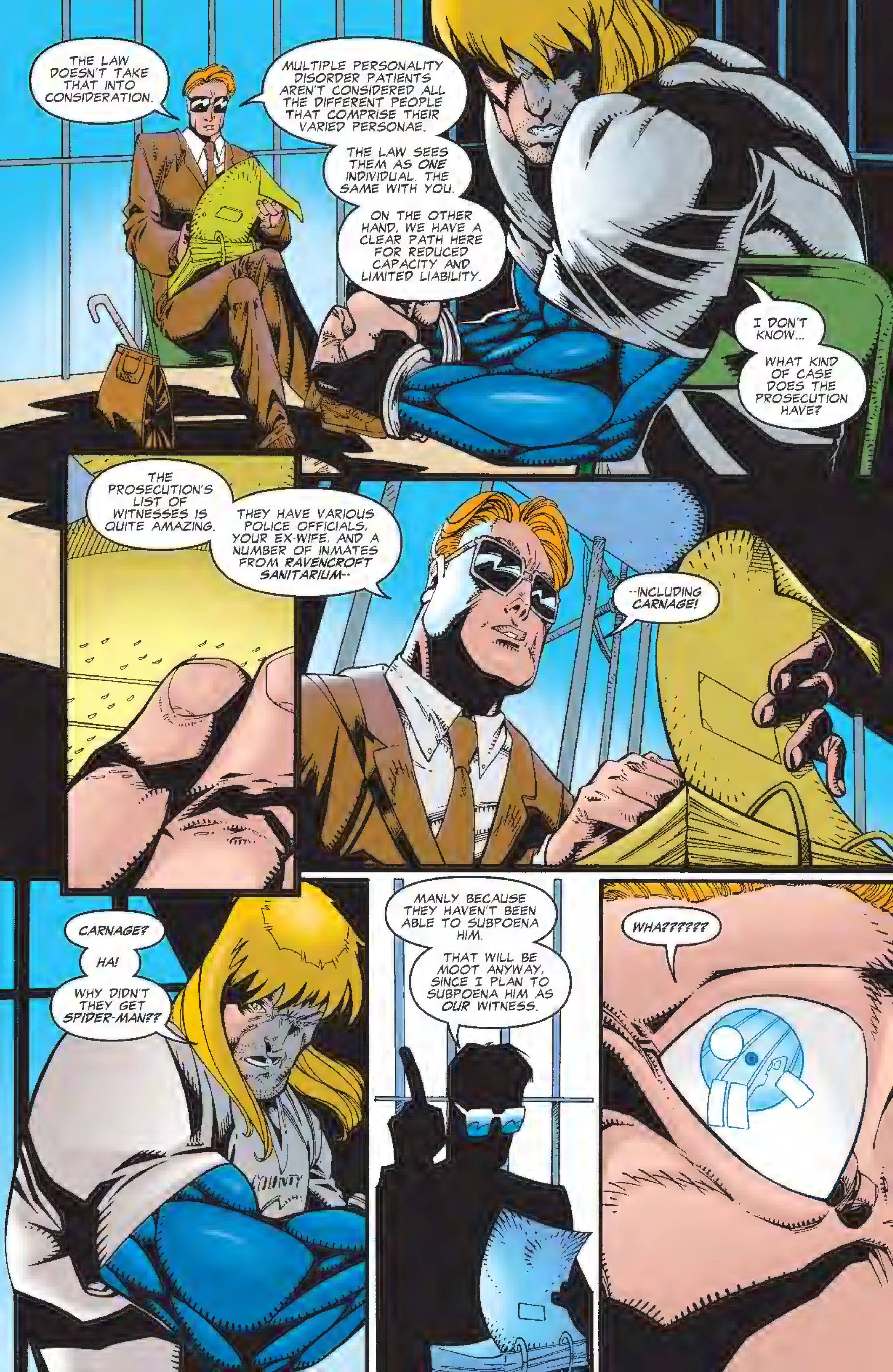

NO! THEY'RE SIGNING OFF! LIKE HE WAS JUST THE GREEN GOBLIN!
WAIT!
ONE LAST BIT OF BRUISED FRUIT FOR SHIPPING, WOLFMAN. MOVE IT, YOU'RE NOT ON TIME-AND-A-HALF ANYMORE.
PLEASURE DOIN' BIZNIS WITCHA.
Ravenscroft Asyl... ...sane ...st. 1702
CLOSED
CREEKA CREEKA CREEK
THE BRIG I FINALLY COMPLETED... WILL BE DISMANTLED. ALL RIGHT. WE MAY HAVE TO FIND OTHER JOBS...
...BUT I KNOW WHAT MY CALLING IS. WE'LL BE NEEDED.
WE SHUT HIM DOWN. HE'S STILL ABSOLUTELY INTERNALIZED.
THE TRANSPORT VAN ROLLS OUT WITHOUT SCREAMS, BLOOD TRAILS, OR FIRE.
WHAT A NICE DAY.
BUT I SEARCH HIS EYES FOR A QUIVER OF THE SYMBIOTE...
...AND, WELL, I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S MY IMAGINATION...
...BUT I SWEAR I FEEL IT, JUST ENOUGH TO KNOW IT'S THERE...
...SOMETHING WET WRAPPING AROUND MY ANKLE...
...LEAVING A STAIN I'LL NEVER WASH AWAY.
QUINN•HOTZ '96

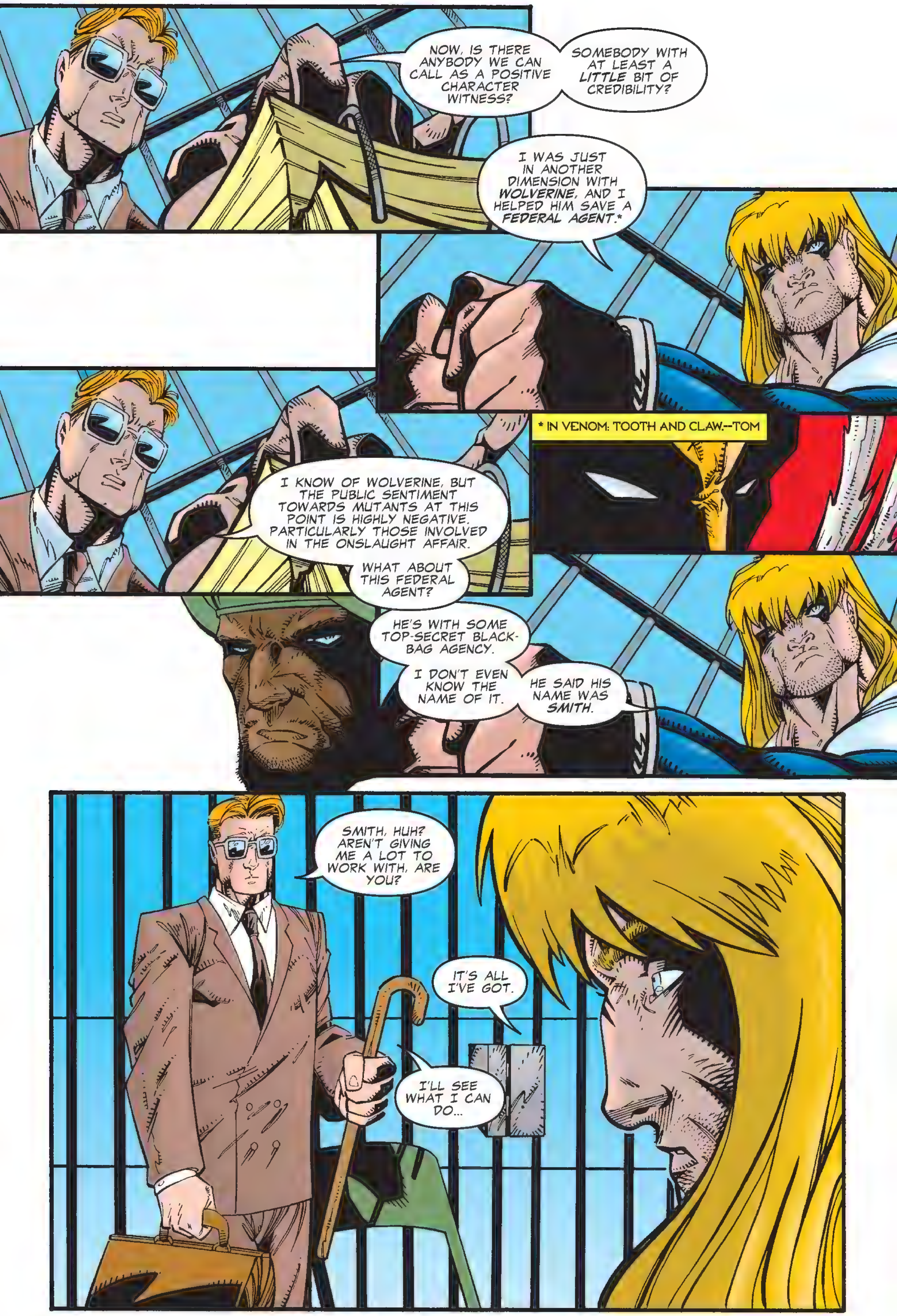
THE CLONE SAGA ULTIMATELY CONCLUDED WITH CONFIRMATION THAT BEN REILLY WAS THE CLONE AFTER ALL — AND ALSO WITH HIS HEROIC DEATH. AS PETER PARKER MOURNED HIS "BROTHER" AND RECLAIMED THE IDENTITY OF SPIDER-MAN, VENOM FOUND HIMSELF CAPTURED AND CHARGED WITH HIS MANY CRIMES OVER THE YEARS. LUCKILY FOR VENOM, HIS CASE ATTRACTED THE ATTENTION OF DEFENSE ATTORNEY MATT MURDOCK...

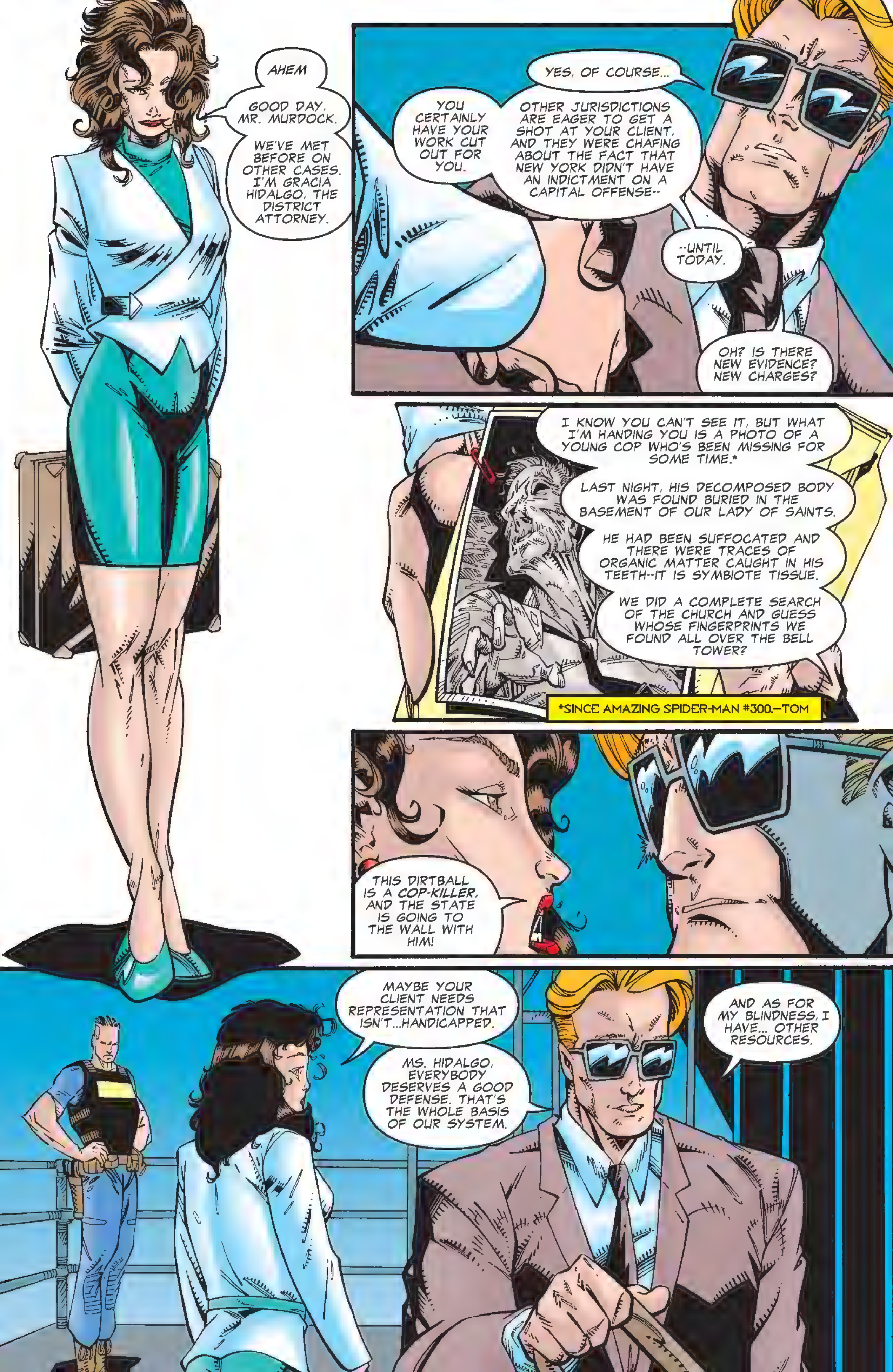

MARVEL COMICS
SPIDER-MAN
APR. '97 2
VENOM ON TRIAL
IT'S DAREDEVIL FOR THE DEFENSE...
SPIDER-MAN ...WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION
JHood FISHER

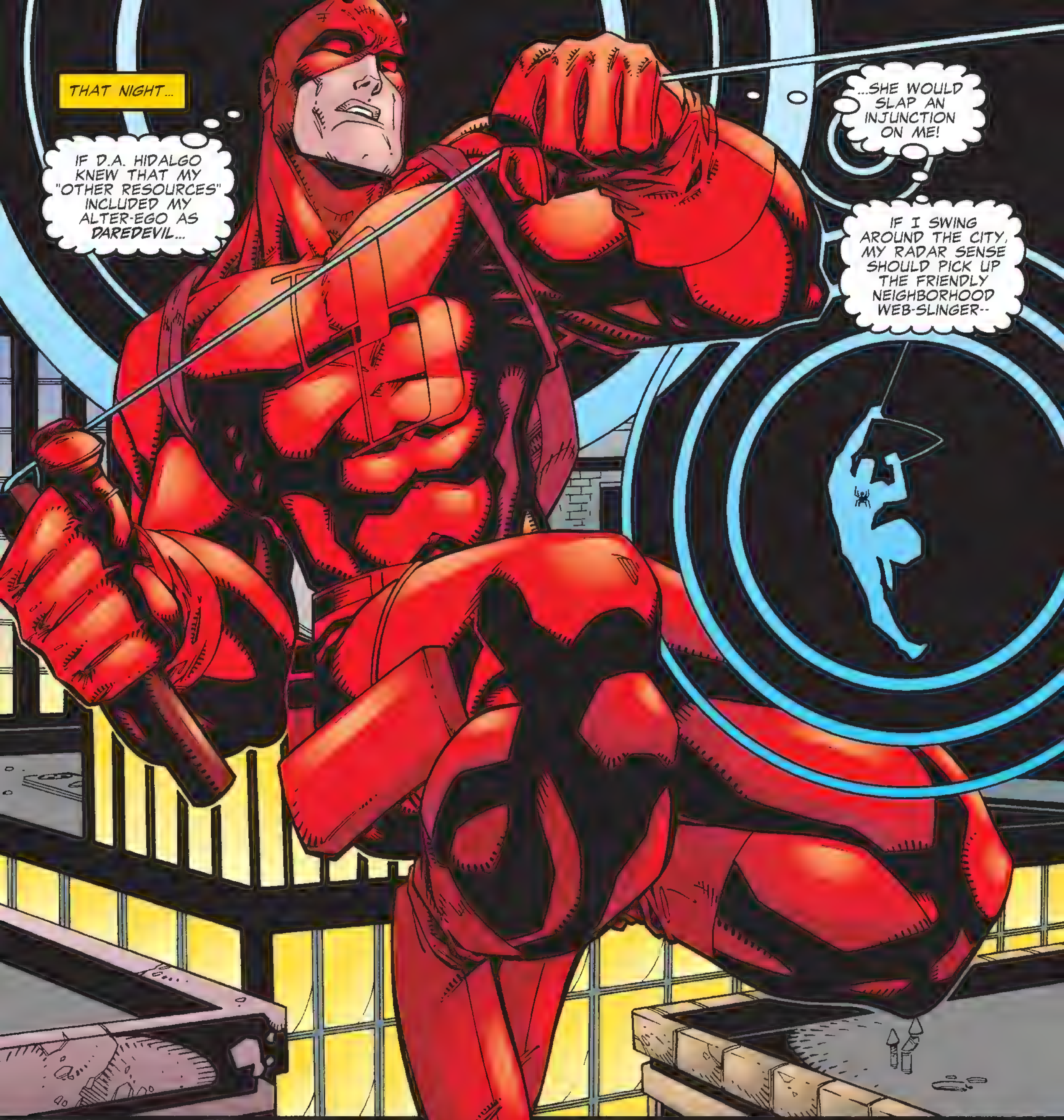

DISORDER IN THE COURT!
IN A SPECIAL CELL ON NEW YORK CITY'S RANDALLS ISLAND, EDDIE BROCK, AKA VENOM, HAS A VISIT FROM HIS ATTORNEY...
...MATT MURDOCK.
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO COBBLE TOGETHER A DEFENSE FOR YOU, MR. BROCK, AND LET ME TELL YOU, IT HASN'T BEEN EASY!
MANSLAUGHTER, ASSAULT, RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT, RESISTING ARREST, FELONY TRESPASS, BREAKING AND ENTERING, KIDNAP, ARSON...
...THE CHARGE SHEET GOES ON FOR OVER TWO HUNDRED PAGES!
THE PRESENCE OF YOUR SYMBIOTIC OTHER IS A GOOD MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCE, THOUGH.
OUR BEST BET IS TO GO FOR AN INSANITY PLEA--
LARRY HAMA-WRITER JOSH HOOD-PENCILER
DEREK FISHER-INKER KEN LOPEZ-LETTERER
TOM SMITH-COLORIST TOM BREVOORT-EDITOR
BOB HARRAS-EDITOR IN CHIEF
A STAN LEE PRESENTATION

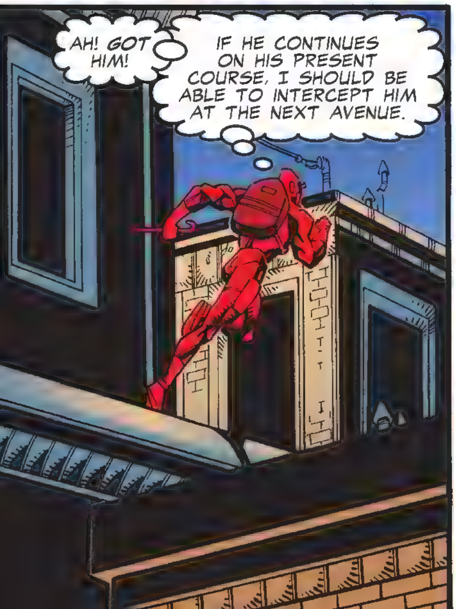

NO WAY ARE WE PLEADING *INSANITY!!*
THAT IS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE!
YOU HAD BEST SIT DOWN AND CHILL OUT, BROCK--
--OR I'M GONNA TOAST YOUR EARDRUMS WITH A FEW HUNDRED MEGA-DECIBELS OF *RAW VOLUME!*
YOUR SYMBIOTE'D *LIKE* THAT, WOULDN'T IT?
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY, OFFICER!
LOOK, HOW ABOUT REDUCED CAPACITY?
YOU HAVE AN *ALIEN* LIVING INSIDE YOU, FOR HEAVENS SAKE!!
NO.
THE ALIEN IS NOT JUST RESIDING INSIDE ME.
THE ALIEN IS NOW A *PART* OF ME.
WE ARE *US.*

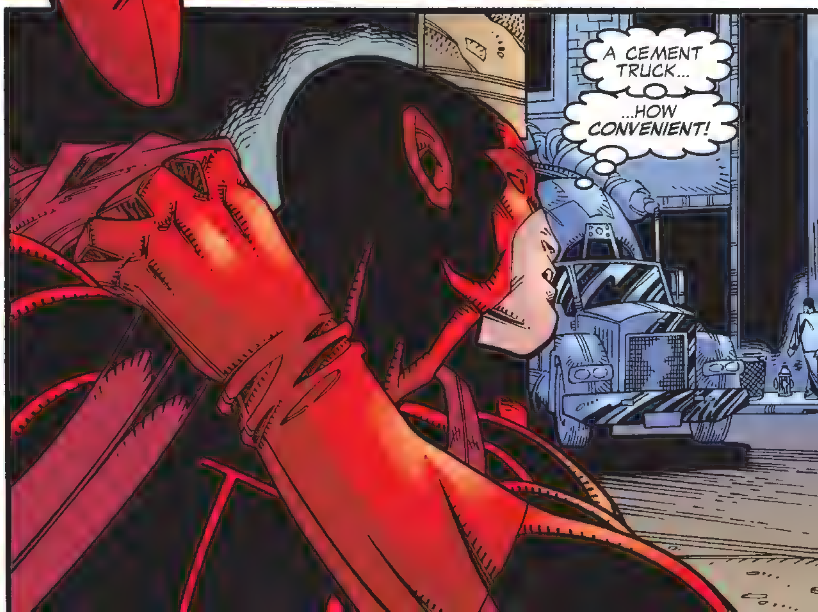

THE LAW DOESN'T TAKE THAT INTO CONSIDERATION.
MULTIPLE PERSONALITY DISORDER PATIENTS AREN'T CONSIDERED ALL THE DIFFERENT PEOPLE THAT COMPRISE THEIR VARIED PERSONAE.
THE LAW SEES THEM AS *ONE* INDIVIDUAL. THE SAME WITH YOU.
ON THE OTHER HAND, WE HAVE A CLEAR PATH HERE FOR REDUCED CAPACITY AND LIMITED LIABILITY.
I DON'T KNOW...
WHAT KIND OF CASE DOES THE PROSECUTION HAVE?
THE PROSECUTION'S LIST OF WITNESSES IS QUITE AMAZING.
THEY HAVE VARIOUS POLICE OFFICIALS, YOUR EX-WIFE, AND A NUMBER OF INMATES FROM *RAVENCROFT SANITARIUM*--
--INCLUDING *CARNAGE!*
CARNAGE?
HA!
WHY DIDN'T THEY GET *SPIDER-MAN??*
MANLY BECAUSE THEY HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO SUBPOENA HIM.
THAT WILL BE MOOT ANYWAY, SINCE I PLAN TO SUBPOENA HIM AS *OUR* WITNESS.
WHA??????

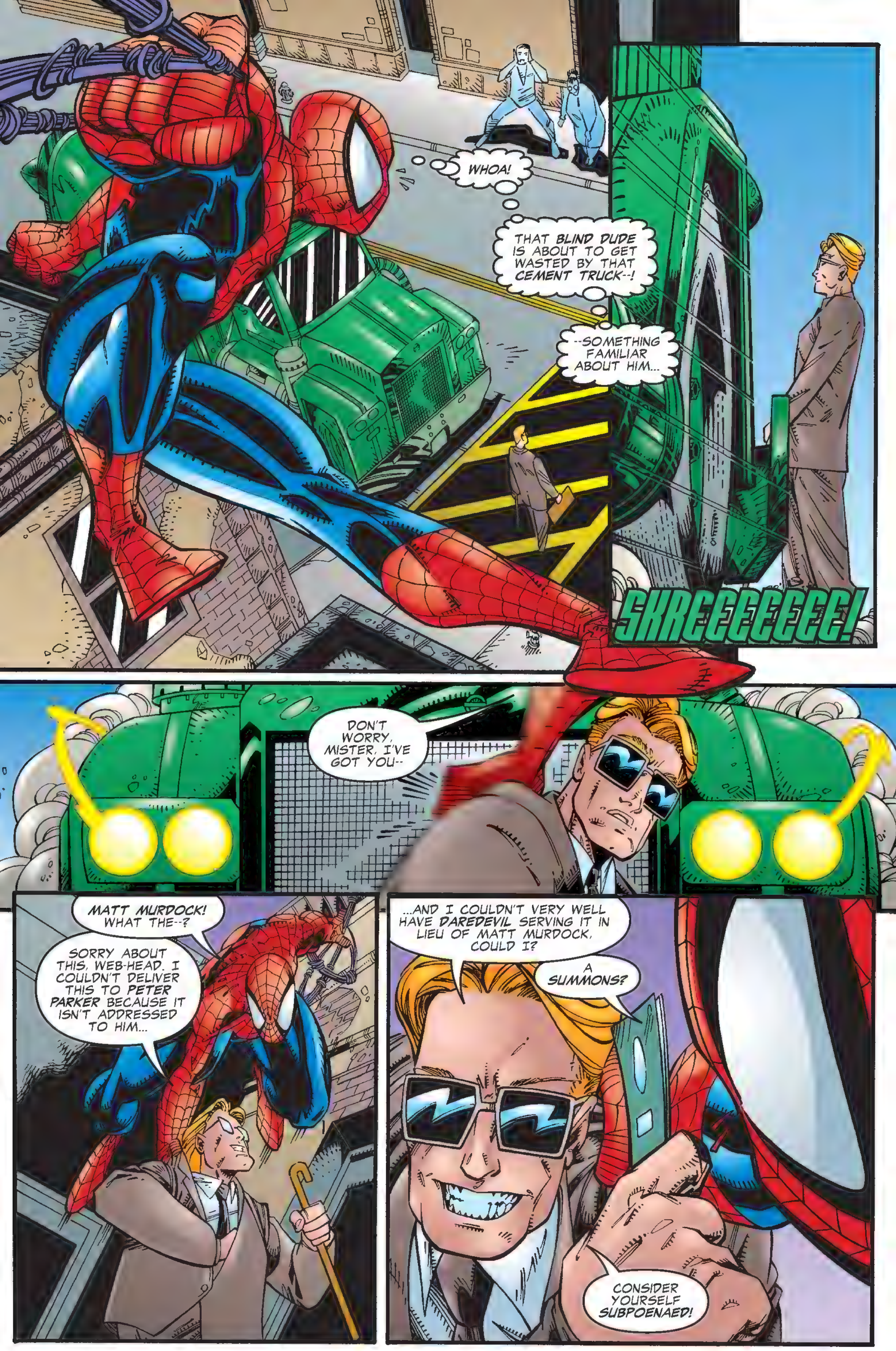

NOW, IS THERE ANYBODY WE CAN CALL AS A POSITIVE CHARACTER WITNESS?
SOMEBODY WITH AT LEAST A *LITTLE* BIT OF CREDIBILITY?
I WAS JUST IN ANOTHER DIMENSION WITH *WOLVERINE*, AND I HELPED HIM SAVE A *FEDERAL AGENT*.*
* IN VENOM: TOOTH AND CLAW.--TOM
I KNOW OF WOLVERINE, BUT THE PUBLIC SENTIMENT TOWARDS MUTANTS AT THIS POINT IS HIGHLY NEGATIVE. PARTICULARLY THOSE INVOLVED IN THE ONSLAUGHT AFFAIR.
WHAT ABOUT THIS FEDERAL AGENT?
HE'S WITH SOME TOP-SECRET BLACK-BAG AGENCY.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW THE NAME OF IT.
HE SAID HIS NAME WAS *SMITH*.
SMITH, HUH? AREN'T GIVING ME A LOT TO WORK WITH, ARE YOU?
IT'S ALL I'VE GOT.
I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO...

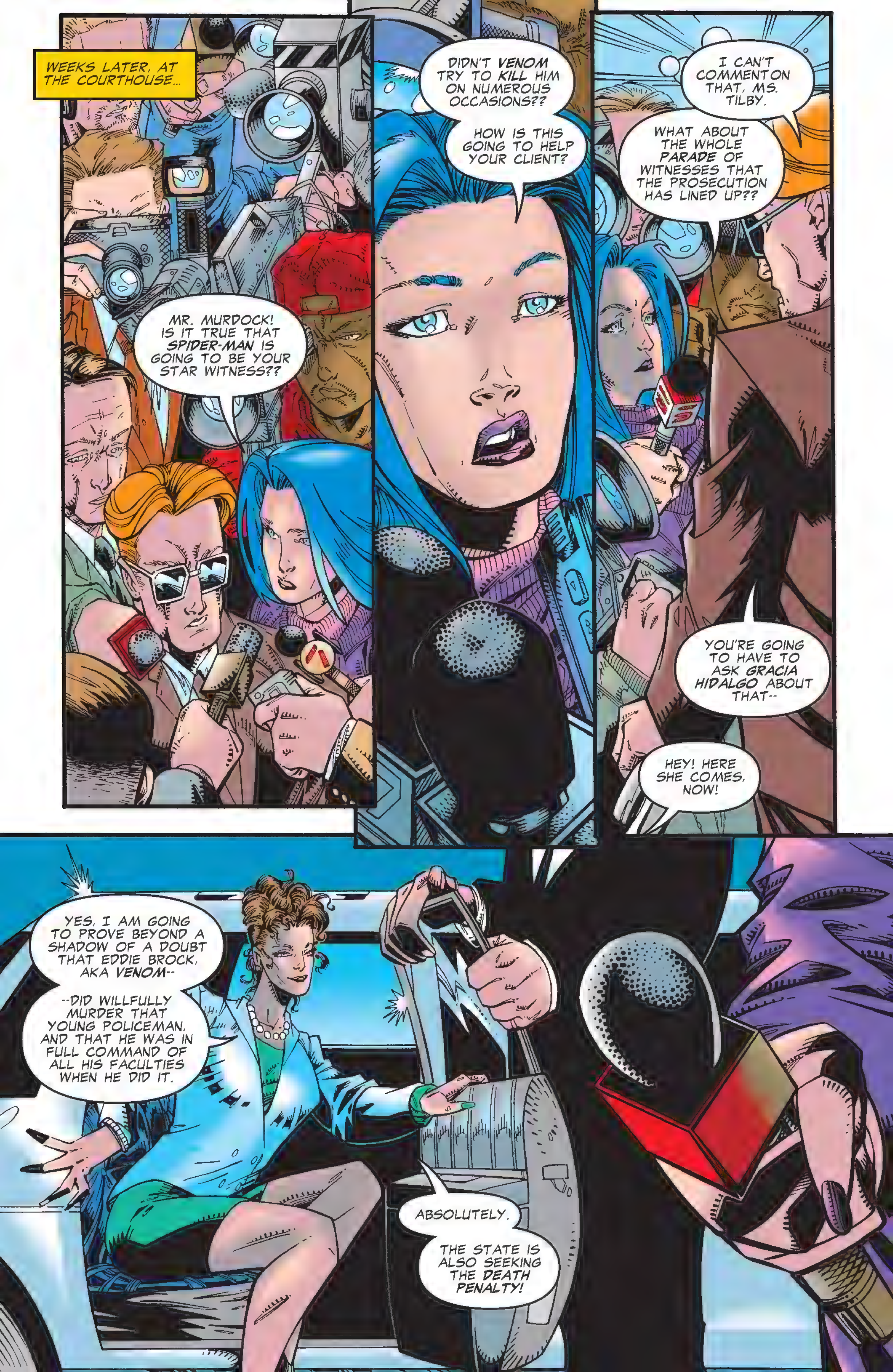

AHEM
GOOD DAY, MR. MURDOCK.
WE'VE MET BEFORE ON OTHER CASES. I'M GRACIA HIDALGO, THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY.
YOU CERTAINLY HAVE YOUR WORK CUT OUT FOR YOU.
YES, OF COURSE...
OTHER JURISDICTIONS ARE EAGER TO GET A SHOT AT YOUR CLIENT, AND THEY WERE CHAFING ABOUT THE FACT THAT NEW YORK DIDN'T HAVE AN INDICTMENT ON A CAPITAL OFFENSE--
--UNTIL TODAY.
OH? IS THERE NEW EVIDENCE? NEW CHARGES?
I KNOW YOU CAN'T SEE IT, BUT WHAT I'M HANDING YOU IS A PHOTO OF A YOUNG COP WHO'S BEEN MISSING FOR SOME TIME.*
LAST NIGHT, HIS DECOMPOSED BODY WAS FOUND BURIED IN THE BASEMENT OF OUR LADY OF SAINTS.
HE HAD BEEN SUFFOCATED AND THERE WERE TRACES OF ORGANIC MATTER CAUGHT IN HIS TEETH--IT IS SYMBIOTE TISSUE.
WE DID A COMPLETE SEARCH OF THE CHURCH AND GUESS WHOSE FINGERPRINTS WE FOUND ALL OVER THE BELL TOWER?
*SINCE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #300.—TOM
THIS DIRTBALL IS A COP-KILLER, AND THE STATE IS GOING TO THE WALL WITH HIM!
MAYBE YOUR CLIENT NEEDS REPRESENTATION THAT ISN'T...HANDICAPPED.
MS. HIDALGO, EVERYBODY DESERVES A GOOD DEFENSE. THAT'S THE WHOLE BASIS OF OUR SYSTEM.
AND AS FOR MY BLINDNESS, I HAVE... OTHER RESOURCES.

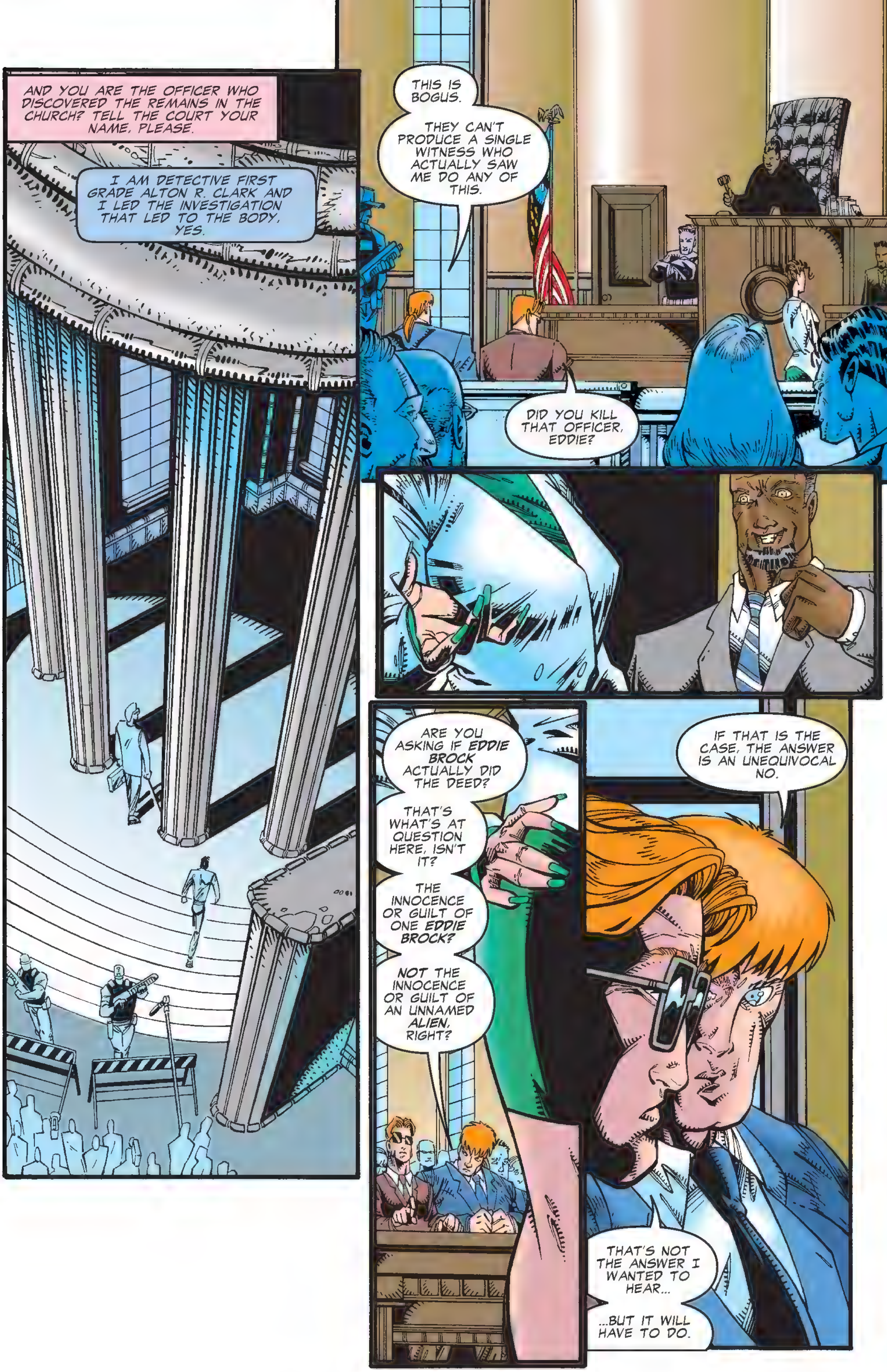

THAT NIGHT...
IF D.A. HIDALGO KNEW THAT MY "OTHER RESOURCES" INCLUDED MY ALTER-EGO AS *DAREDEVIL*...
...SHE WOULD SLAP AN INJUNCTION ON ME!
IF I SWING AROUND THE CITY, MY RADAR SENSE SHOULD PICK UP THE FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD WEB-SLINGER--

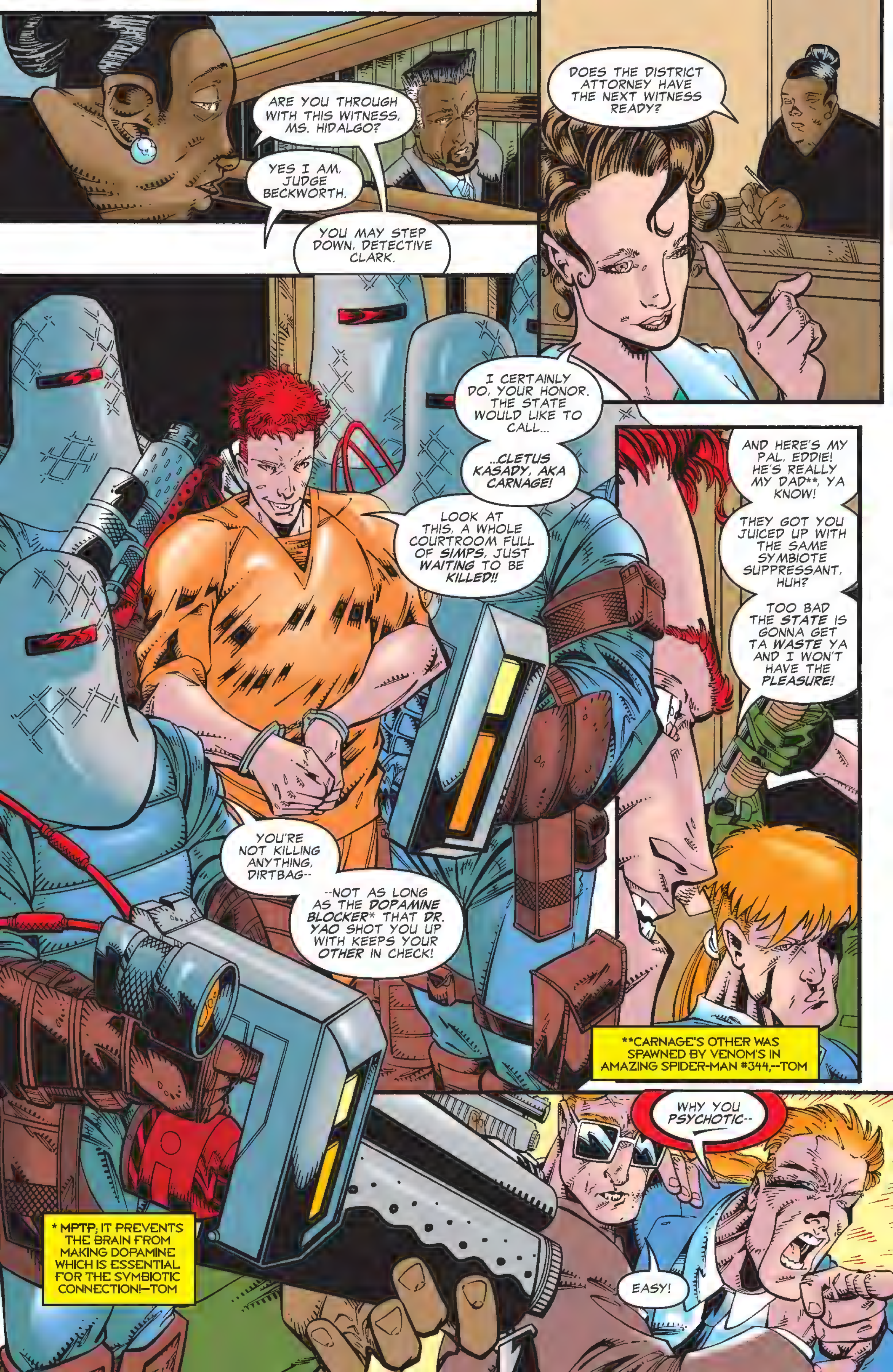

AH! *GOT* HIM!
IF HE CONTINUES ON HIS PRESENT COURSE, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO INTERCEPT HIM AT THE NEXT AVENUE.

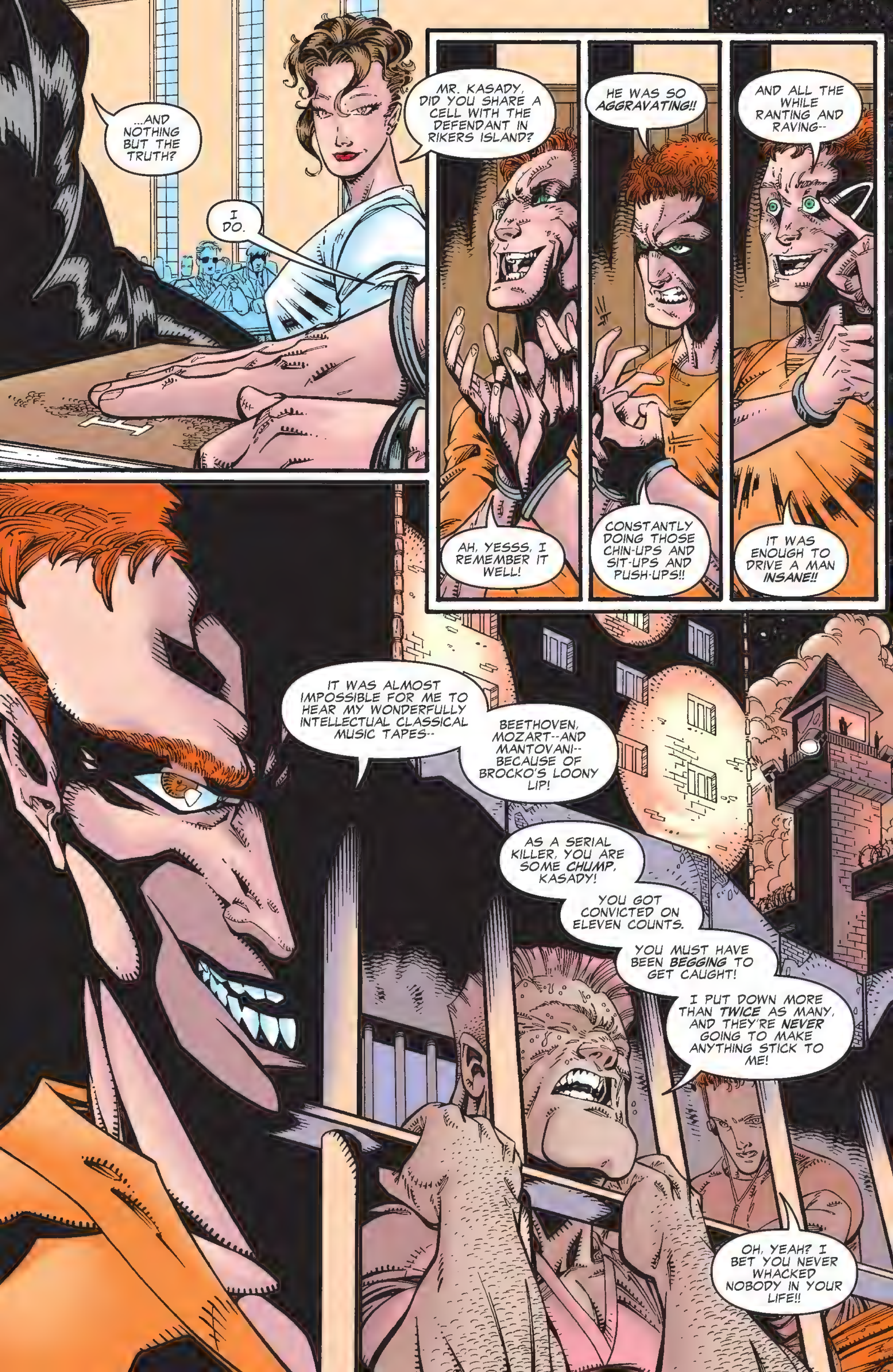

A CEMENT TRUCK...
...HOW *CONVENIENT!*

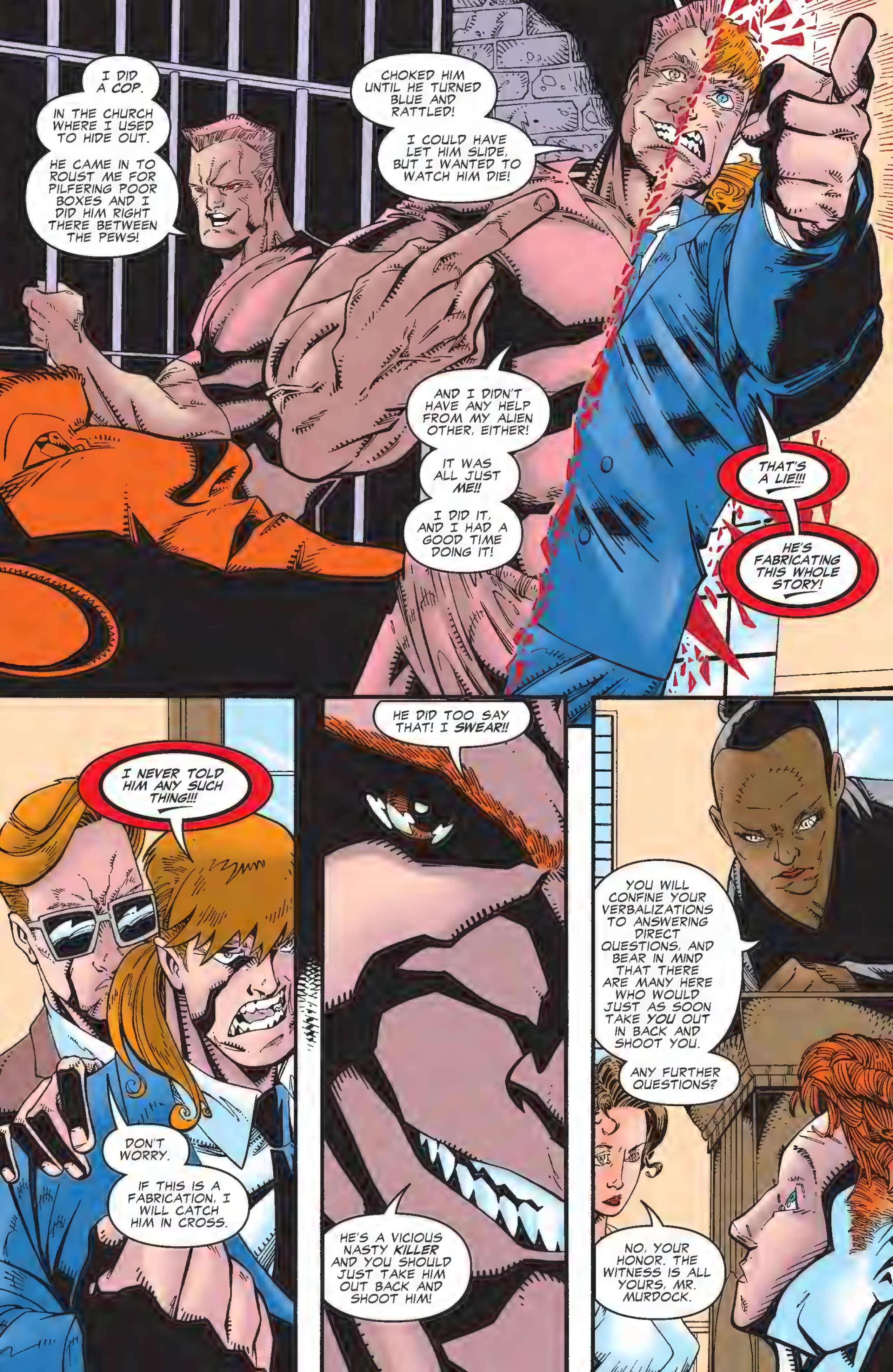

WHOA!
THAT BLIND DUDE IS ABOUT TO GET WASTED BY THAT CEMENT TRUCK--!
--SOMETHING FAMILIAR ABOUT HIM...
SKREEEEEEEEC!
DON'T WORRY, MISTER, I'VE GOT YOU--
MATT MURDOCK! WHAT THE--?
SORRY ABOUT THIS, WEB-HEAD. I COULDN'T DELIVER THIS TO PETER PARKER BECAUSE IT ISN'T ADDRESSED TO HIM...
...AND I COULDN'T VERY WELL HAVE DAREDEVIL SERVING IT IN LIEU OF MATT MURDOCK, COULD I?
A SUMMONS?
CONSIDER YOURSELF SUBPOENAED!

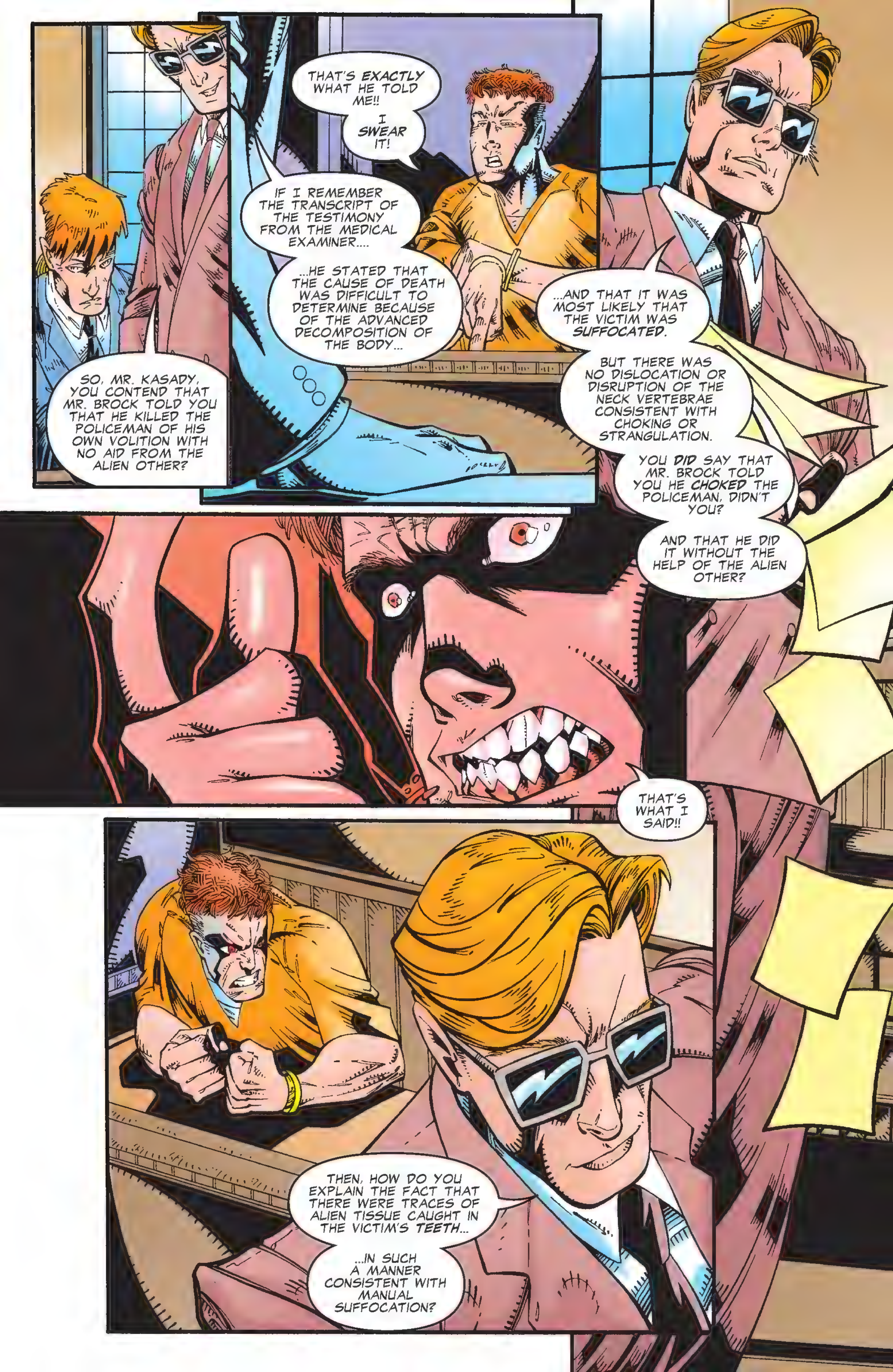

WEEKS LATER, AT THE COURTHOUSE...
MR. MURDOCK! IS IT TRUE THAT SPIDER-MAN IS GOING TO BE YOUR STAR WITNESS??
DIDN'T VENOM TRY TO KILL HIM ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS??
HOW IS THIS GOING TO HELP YOUR CLIENT?
I CAN'T COMMENT ON THAT, MS. TILBY.
WHAT ABOUT THE WHOLE PARADE OF WITNESSES THAT THE PROSECUTION HAS LINED UP??
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO ASK GRACIA HIDALGO ABOUT THAT--
HEY! HERE SHE COMES, NOW!
YES, I AM GOING TO PROVE BEYOND A SHADOW OF A DOUBT THAT EDDIE BROCK, AKA VENOM--
--DID WILLFULLY MURDER THAT YOUNG POLICEMAN, AND THAT HE WAS IN FULL COMMAND OF ALL HIS FACULTIES WHEN HE DID IT.
ABSOLUTELY.
THE STATE IS ALSO SEEKING THE DEATH PENALTY!

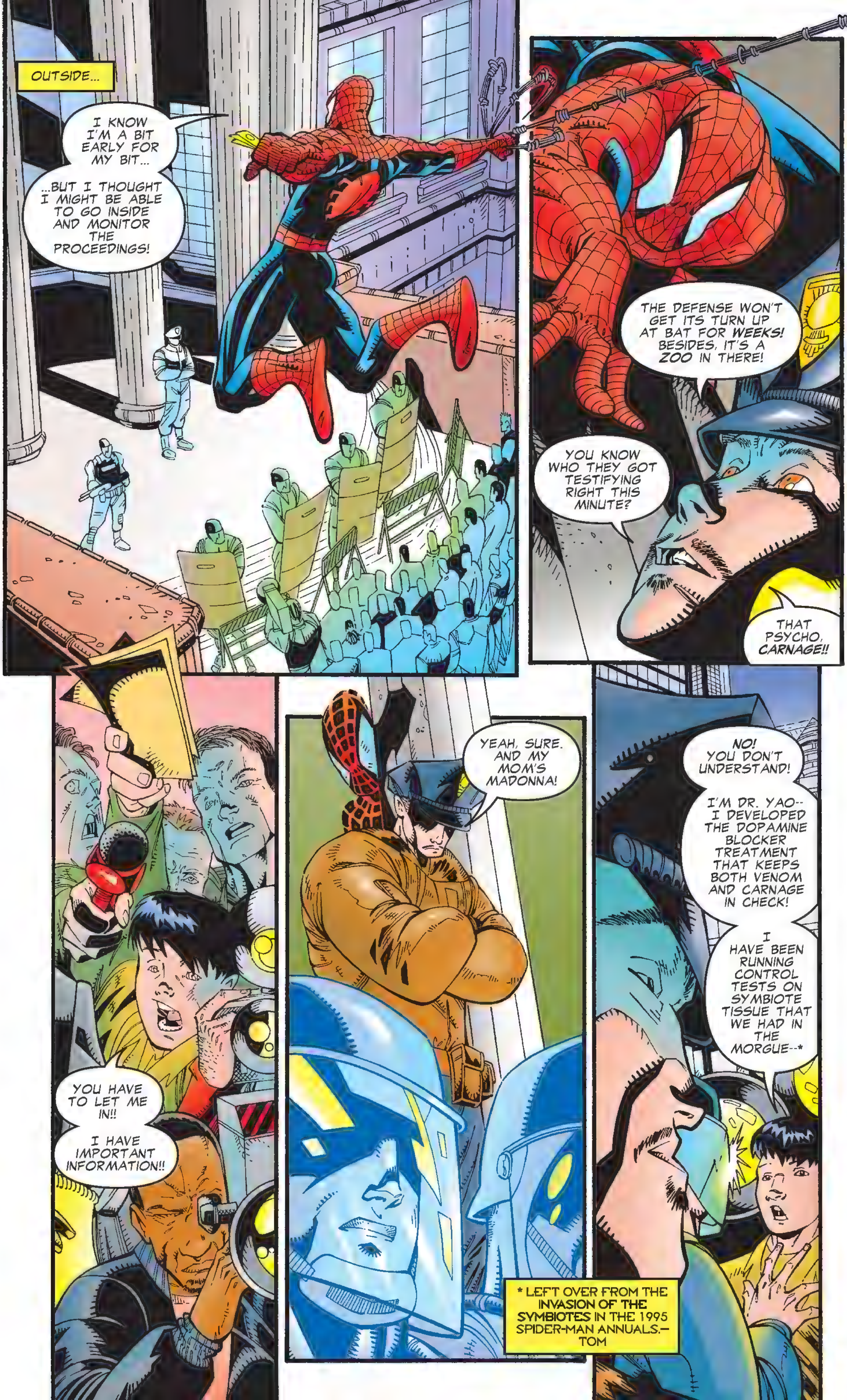

AND YOU ARE THE OFFICER WHO DISCOVERED THE REMAINS IN THE CHURCH? TELL THE COURT YOUR NAME, PLEASE.
I AM DETECTIVE FIRST GRADE ALTON R. CLARK AND I LED THE INVESTIGATION THAT LED TO THE BODY, YES.
THIS IS BOGUS.
THEY CAN'T PRODUCE A SINGLE WITNESS WHO ACTUALLY SAW ME DO ANY OF THIS.
DID YOU KILL THAT OFFICER, EDDIE?
ARE YOU ASKING IF **EDDIE BROCK** ACTUALLY DID THE DEED?
THAT'S WHAT'S AT QUESTION HERE, ISN'T IT?
THE INNOCENCE OR GUILT OF ONE **EDDIE BROCK?**
NOT THE INNOCENCE OR GUILT OF AN UNNAMED **ALIEN,** RIGHT?
IF THAT IS THE CASE, THE ANSWER IS AN UNEQUIVOCAL NO.
THAT'S NOT THE ANSWER I WANTED TO HEAR...
...BUT IT WILL HAVE TO DO.


ARE YOU THROUGH WITH THIS WITNESS, MS. HIDALGO?
YES I AM, JUDGE BECKWORTH.
YOU MAY STEP DOWN, DETECTIVE CLARK.
DOES THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY HAVE THE NEXT WITNESS READY?
I CERTAINLY DO, YOUR HONOR. THE STATE WOULD LIKE TO CALL...
...*CLETUS KASADY*, AKA *CARNAGE!*
LOOK AT THIS, A WHOLE COURTROOM FULL OF *SIMPS*, JUST *WAITING* TO BE *KILLED!!*
YOU'RE NOT KILLING ANYTHING, DIRTBAG--
--NOT AS LONG AS THE *DOPAMINE BLOCKER** THAT *DR. YAO* SHOT YOU UP WITH KEEPS YOUR *OTHER* IN CHECK!
AND HERE'S MY PAL, EDDIE! HE'S REALLY MY DAD**, YA KNOW!
THEY GOT YOU JUICED UP WITH THE SAME SYMBIOTE SUPPRESSANT, HUH?
TOO BAD THE *STATE* IS GONNA GET TA *WASTE* YA AND I WON'T HAVE THE *PLEASURE!*
**CARNAGE'S OTHER WAS SPAWNED BY VENOM'S IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #344.--TOM
WHY YOU *PSYCHOTIC*--
EASY!
* MPTP; IT PREVENTS THE BRAIN FROM MAKING DOPAMINE WHICH IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE SYMBIOTIC CONNECTION!--TOM

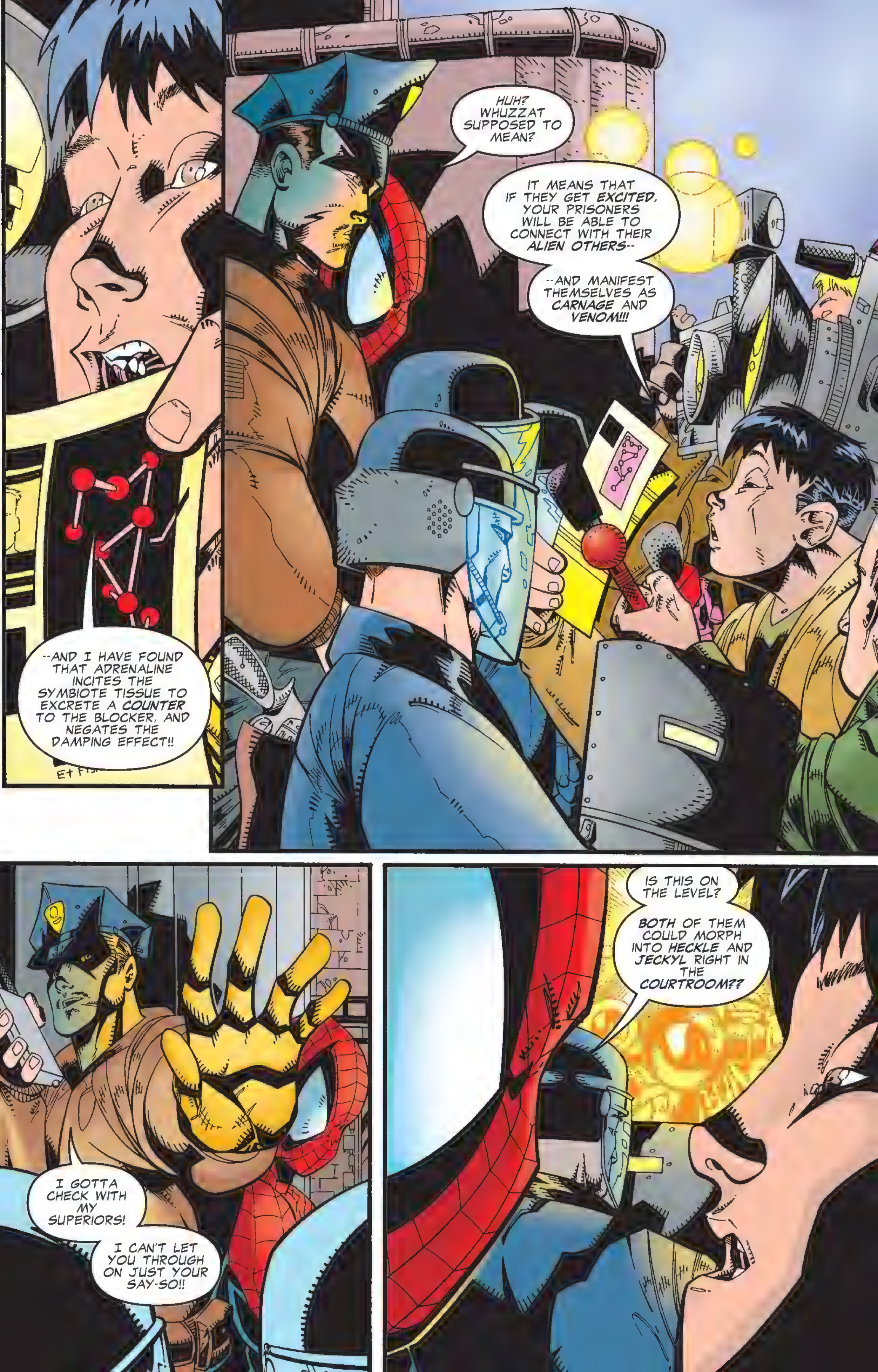

...AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?
I DO.
MR. KASADY, DID YOU SHARE A CELL WITH THE DEFENDANT IN RIKERS ISLAND?
AH, YESSS, I REMEMBER IT WELL!
HE WAS SO *AGGRAVATING!!*
CONSTANTLY DOING THOSE CHIN-UPS AND SIT-UPS AND PUSH-UPS!!
AND ALL THE WHILE RANTING AND RAVING--
IT WAS ENOUGH TO DRIVE A MAN *INSANE!!*
IT WAS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO HEAR MY WONDERFULLY INTELLECTUAL CLASSICAL MUSIC TAPES--
BEETHOVEN, MOZART--AND MANTOVANI--BECAUSE OF BROCKO'S LOONY LIP!
AS A SERIAL KILLER, YOU ARE SOME *CHUMP*, KASADY!
YOU GOT CONVICTED ON ELEVEN COUNTS.
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN *BEGGING* TO GET CAUGHT!
I PUT DOWN MORE THAN *TWICE* AS MANY, AND THEY'RE *NEVER* GOING TO MAKE ANYTHING STICK TO ME!
OH, YEAH? I BET YOU NEVER WHACKED NOBODY IN YOUR LIFE!!

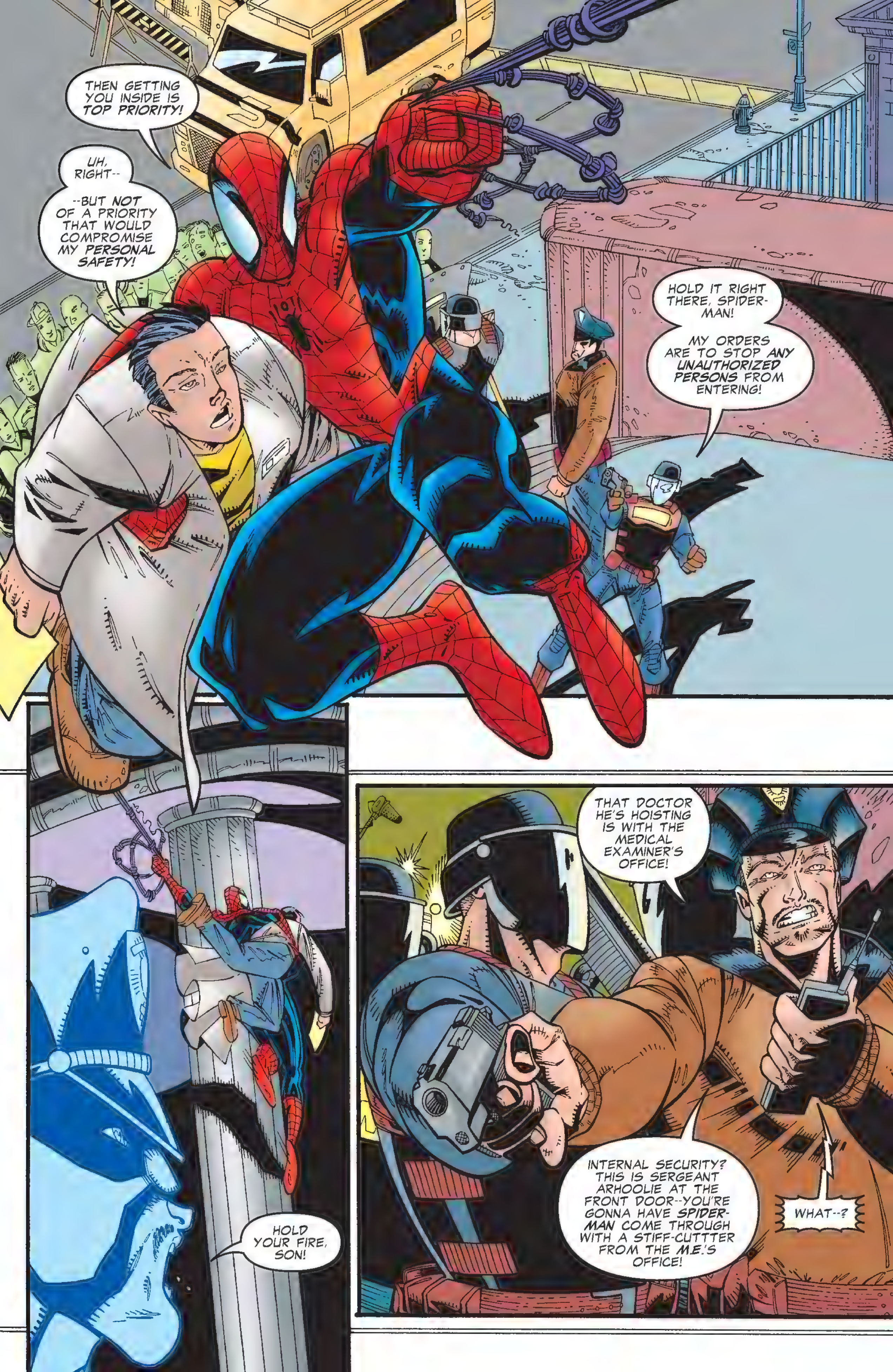

I DID A COP.
IN THE CHURCH WHERE I USED TO HIDE OUT.
HE CAME IN TO ROUST ME FOR PILFERING POOR BOXES AND I DID HIM RIGHT THERE BETWEEN THE PEWS!
CHOKED HIM UNTIL HE TURNED BLUE AND RATTLED!
I COULD HAVE LET HIM SLIDE, BUT I WANTED TO WATCH HIM DIE!
AND I DIDN'T HAVE ANY HELP FROM MY ALIEN OTHER, EITHER!
IT WAS ALL JUST ME!!
I DID IT, AND I HAD A GOOD TIME DOING IT!
THAT'S A LIE!!!
HE'S FABRICATING THIS WHOLE STORY!
I NEVER TOLD HIM ANY SUCH THING!!!
DON'T WORRY.
IF THIS IS A FABRICATION, I WILL CATCH HIM IN CROSS.
HE DID TOO SAY THAT! I SWEAR!!
HE'S A VICIOUS NASTY KILLER AND YOU SHOULD JUST TAKE HIM OUT BACK AND SHOOT HIM!
YOU WILL CONFINE YOUR VERBALIZATIONS TO ANSWERING DIRECT QUESTIONS, AND BEAR IN MIND THAT THERE ARE MANY HERE WHO WOULD JUST AS SOON TAKE YOU OUT IN BACK AND SHOOT YOU.
ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS?
NO, YOUR HONOR. THE WITNESS IS ALL YOURS, MR. MURDOCK.

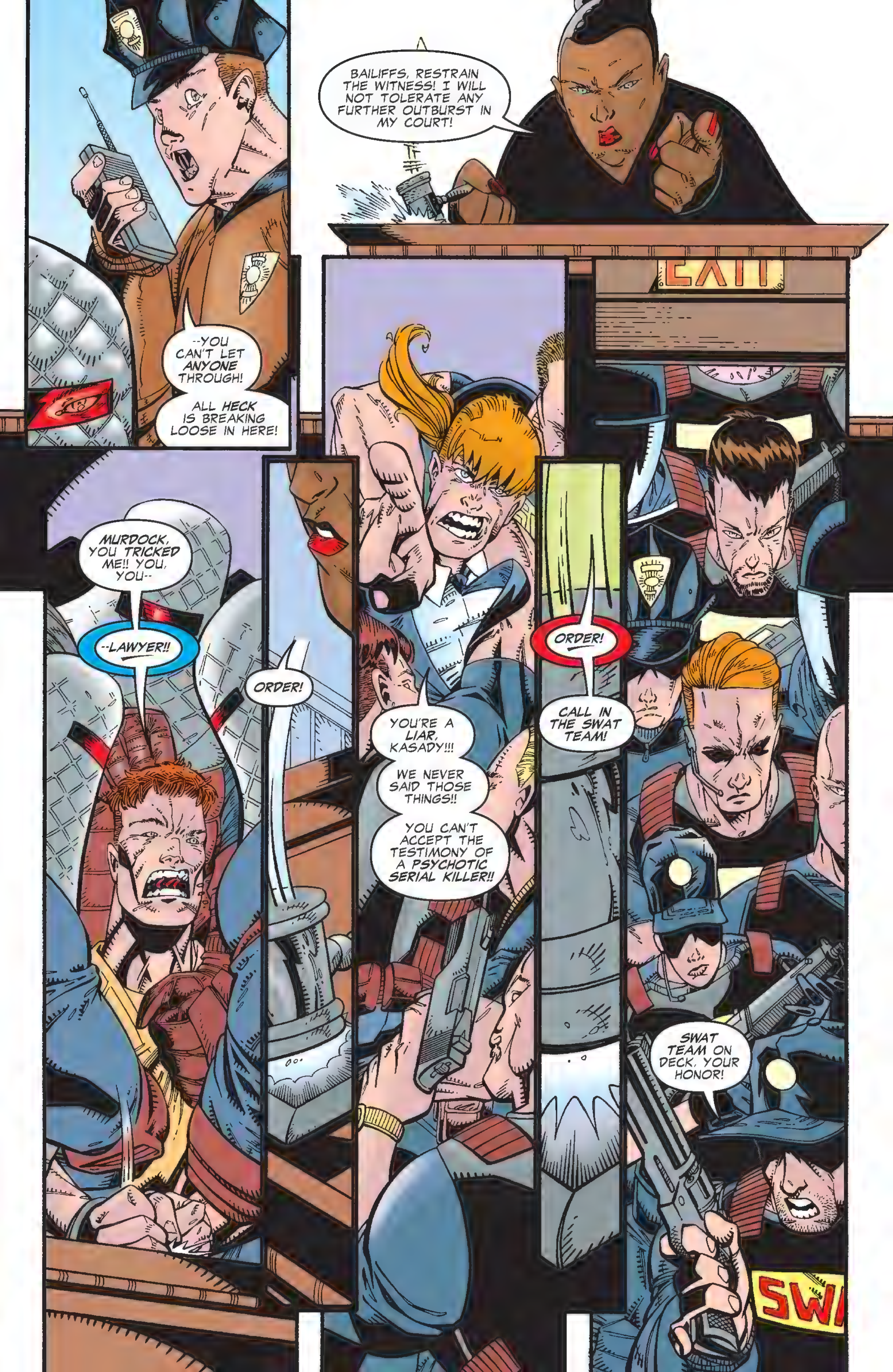

SO, MR. KASADY, YOU CONTEND THAT MR. BROCK TOLD YOU THAT HE KILLED THE POLICEMAN OF HIS OWN VOLITION WITH NO AID FROM THE ALIEN OTHER?
THAT'S *EXACTLY* WHAT HE TOLD ME!!
I *SWEAR* IT!
IF I REMEMBER THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE TESTIMONY FROM THE MEDICAL EXAMINER....
...HE STATED THAT THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE BECAUSE OF THE ADVANCED DECOMPOSITION OF THE BODY...
...AND THAT IT WAS MOST LIKELY THAT THE VICTIM WAS *SUFFOCATED.*
BUT THERE WAS NO DISLOCATION OR DISRUPTION OF THE NECK VERTEBRAE CONSISTENT WITH CHOKING OR STRANGULATION.
YOU *DID* SAY THAT MR. BROCK TOLD YOU HE *CHOKED* THE POLICEMAN, DIDN'T YOU?
AND THAT HE DID IT WITHOUT THE HELP OF THE ALIEN OTHER?
THAT'S WHAT I SAID!!
THEN, HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE FACT THAT THERE WERE TRACES OF ALIEN TISSUE CAUGHT IN THE VICTIM'S *TEETH...*
...IN SUCH A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH MANUAL SUFFOCATION?

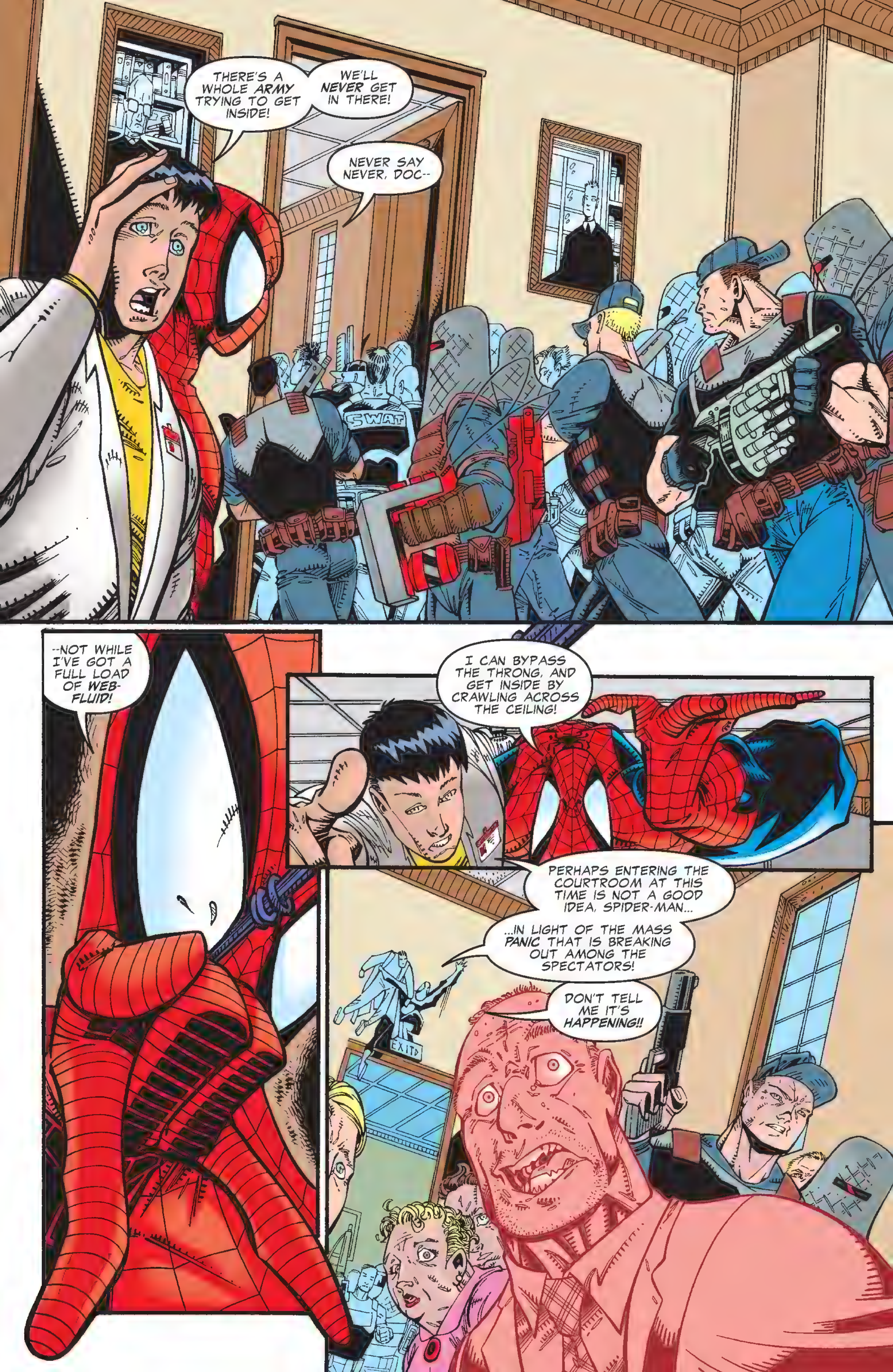

OUTSIDE...
I KNOW I'M A BIT EARLY FOR MY BIT...
...BUT I THOUGHT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO GO INSIDE AND MONITOR THE PROCEEDINGS!
THE DEFENSE WON'T GET ITS TURN UP AT BAT FOR WEEKS! BESIDES, IT'S A ZOO IN THERE!
YOU KNOW WHO THEY GOT TESTIFYING RIGHT THIS MINUTE?
THAT PSYCHO, CARNAGE!!
YOU HAVE TO LET ME IN!!
I HAVE IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!
YEAH, SURE. AND MY MOM'S MADONNA!
NO! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!
I'M DR. YAO-- I DEVELOPED THE DOPAMINE BLOCKER TREATMENT THAT KEEPS BOTH VENOM AND CARNAGE IN CHECK!
I HAVE BEEN RUNNING CONTROL TESTS ON SYMBIOTE TISSUE THAT WE HAD IN THE MORGUE--*

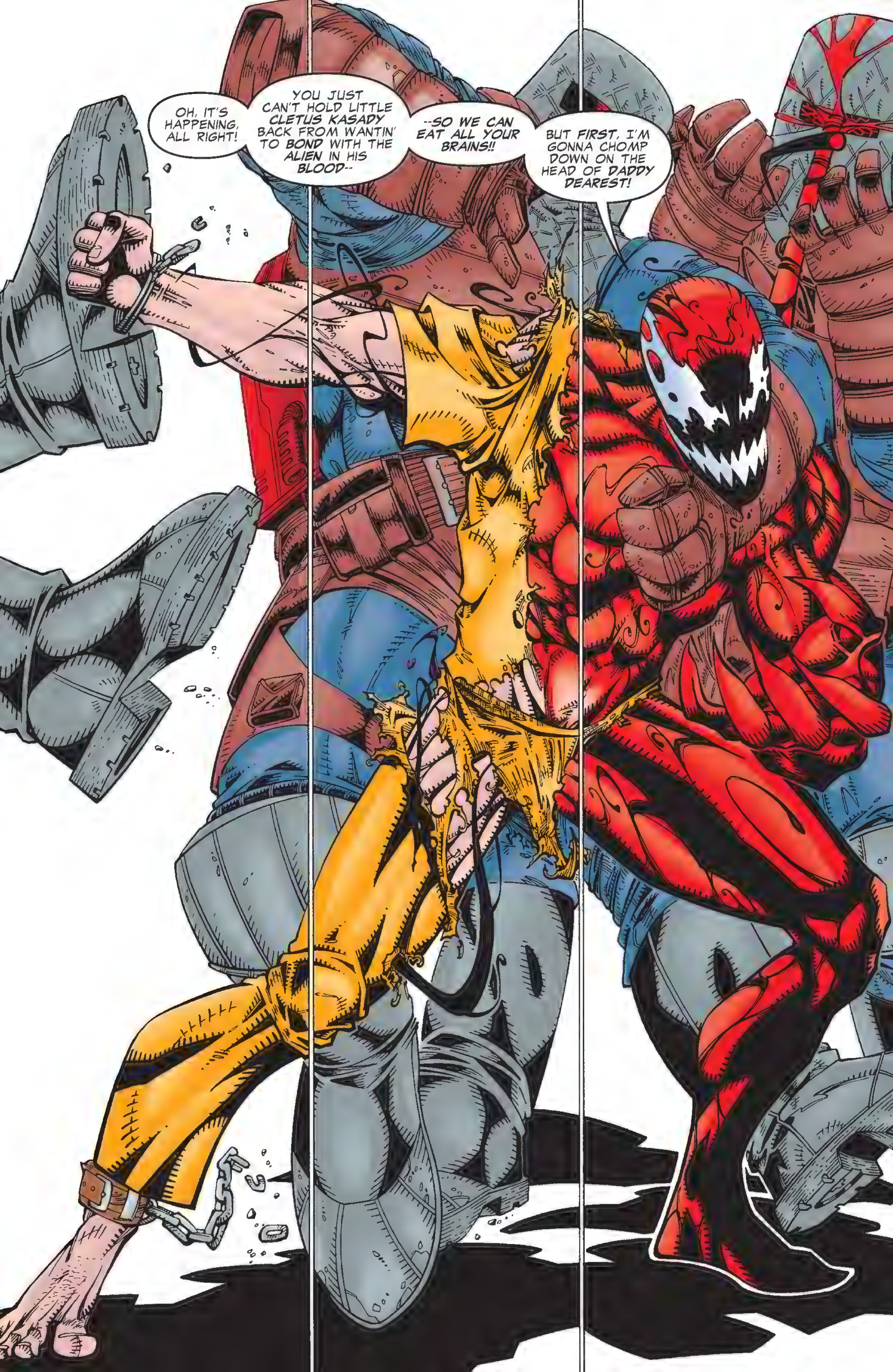
* LEFT OVER FROM THE INVASION OF THE SYMBIOTES IN THE 1995 SPIDER-MAN ANNUALS.— TOM

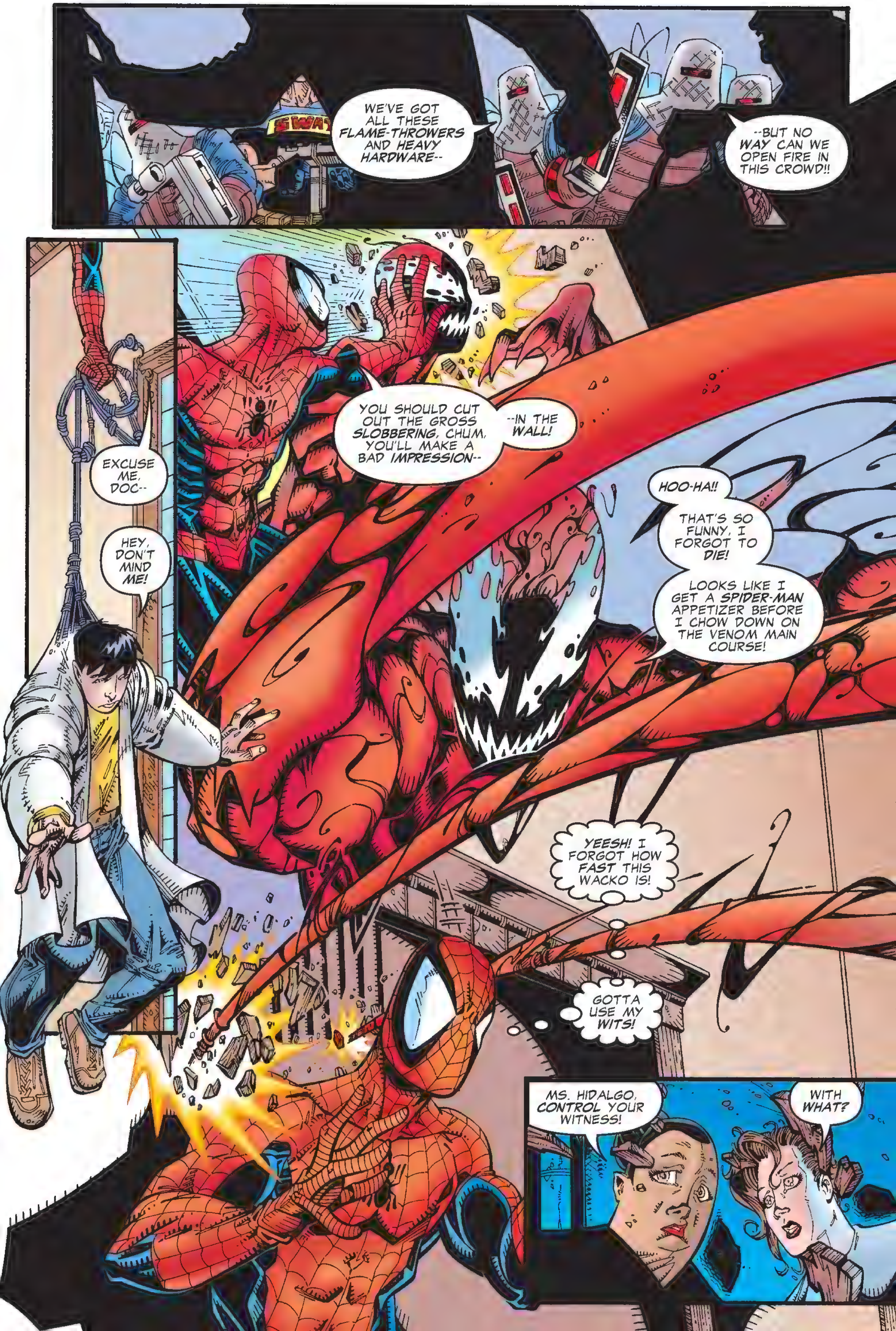

--AND I HAVE FOUND THAT ADRENALINE INCITES THE SYMBIOTE TISSUE TO EXCRETE A *COUNTER* TO THE BLOCKER, AND NEGATES THE DAMPING EFFECT!!
HUH? WHUZZAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
IT MEANS THAT IF THEY GET *EXCITED*, YOUR PRISONERS WILL BE ABLE TO CONNECT WITH THEIR *ALIEN OTHERS*--
--AND MANIFEST THEMSELVES AS *CARNAGE* AND *VENOM*!!!
I GOTTA CHECK WITH MY SUPERIORS!
I CAN'T LET YOU THROUGH ON JUST YOUR SAY-SO!!
IS THIS ON THE LEVEL?
BOTH OF THEM COULD MORPH INTO *HECKLE* AND *JECKYL* RIGHT IN THE *COURTROOM*??

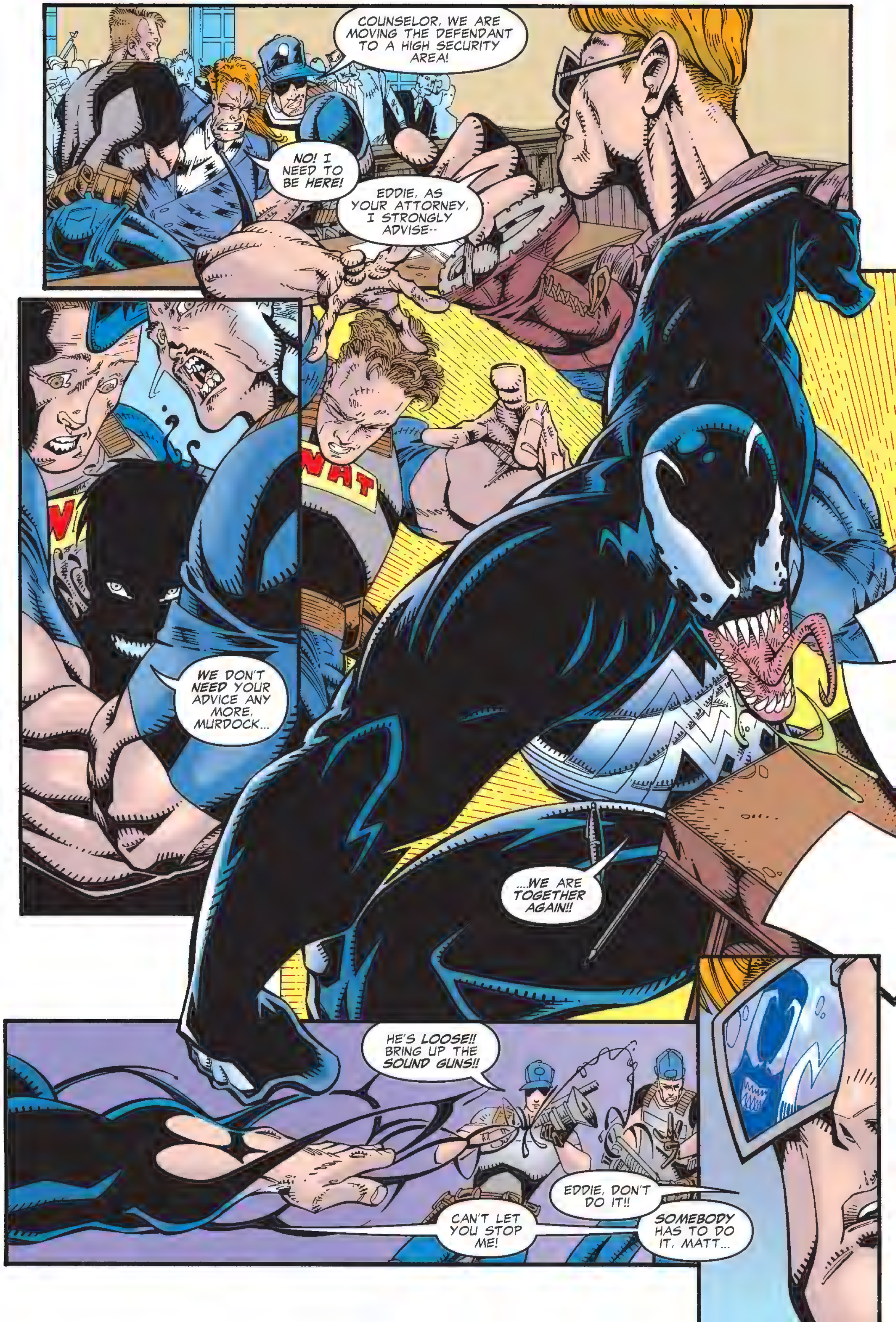

THEN GETTING YOU INSIDE IS *TOP PRIORITY!*
UH, RIGHT--
--BUT *NOT* OF A PRIORITY THAT WOULD COMPROMISE MY *PERSONAL SAFETY!*
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, SPIDER-MAN!
MY ORDERS ARE TO STOP *ANY UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS* FROM ENTERING!
HOLD YOUR FIRE, SON!
THAT DOCTOR HE'S HOISTING IS WITH THE MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE!
INTERNAL SECURITY? THIS IS SERGEANT ARHOOLIE AT THE FRONT DOOR--YOU'RE GONNA HAVE *SPIDER-MAN* COME THROUGH WITH A STIFF-CUTTTER FROM THE *M.E.*'S OFFICE!
WHAT--?

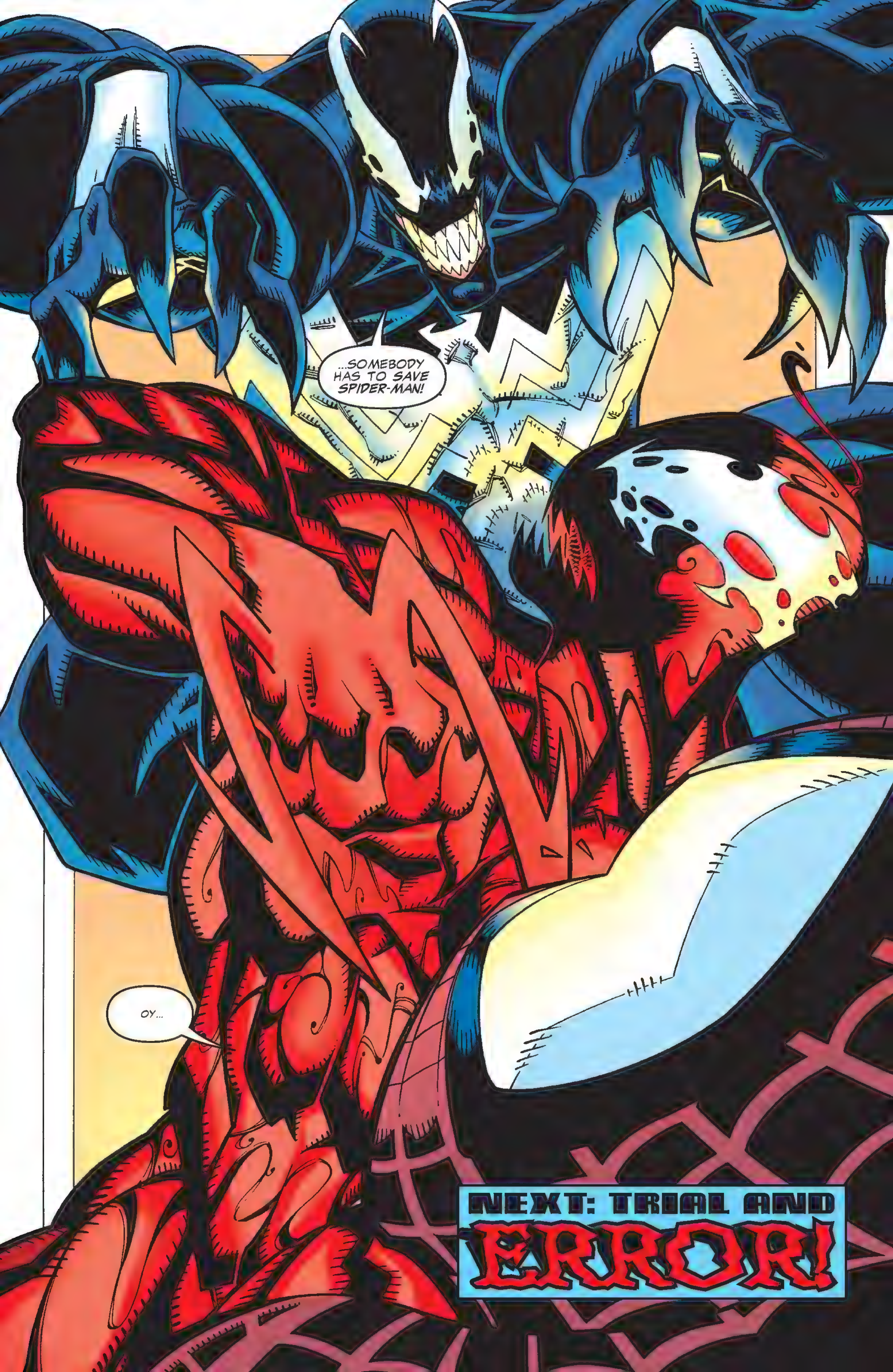

BAILIFFS, RESTRAIN THE WITNESS! I WILL NOT TOLERATE ANY FURTHER OUTBURST IN MY COURT!
--YOU CAN'T LET ANYONE THROUGH!
ALL HECK IS BREAKING LOOSE IN HERE!
EXIT
MURDOCK, YOU TRICKED ME!! YOU, YOU--
--LAWYER!!
ORDER!
YOU'RE A LIAR, KASADY!!!
WE NEVER SAID THOSE THINGS!!
YOU CAN'T ACCEPT THE TESTIMONY OF A PSYCHOTIC SERIAL KILLER!!
ORDER!
CALL IN THE SWAT TEAM!
SWAT TEAM ON DECK, YOUR HONOR!
SWA

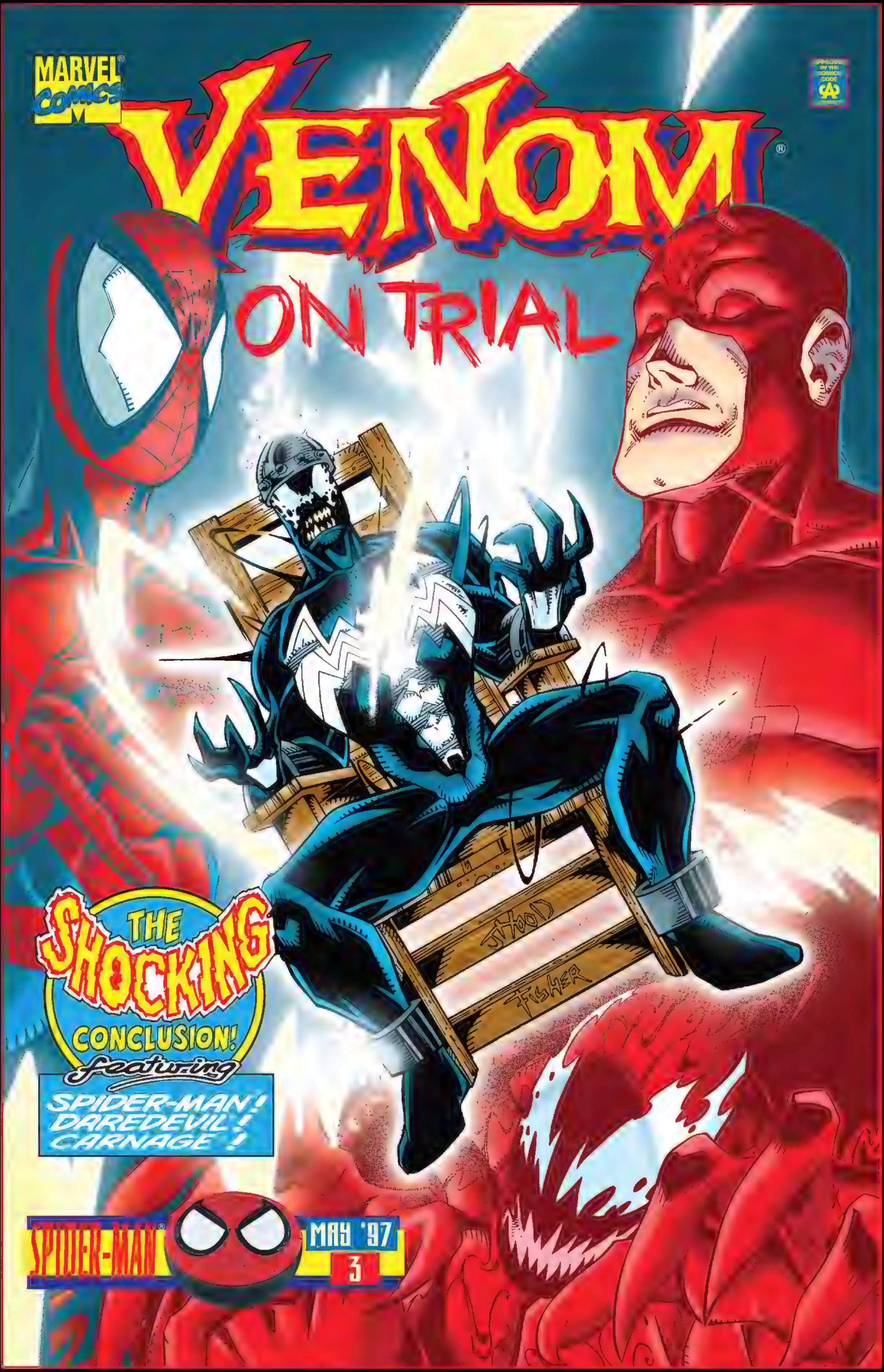

THERE'S A WHOLE *ARMY* TRYING TO GET INSIDE!
WE'LL *NEVER* GET IN THERE!
NEVER SAY NEVER, DOC--
SWAT
--NOT WHILE I'VE GOT A FULL LOAD OF *WEB-FLUID!*
I CAN BYPASS THE THRONG, AND GET INSIDE BY CRAWLING ACROSS THE CEILING!
PERHAPS ENTERING THE COURTROOM AT THIS TIME IS NOT A GOOD IDEA, SPIDER-MAN...
...IN LIGHT OF THE MASS *PANIC* THAT IS BREAKING OUT AMONG THE SPECTATORS!
EXIT
DON'T TELL ME IT'S *HAPPENING!!*

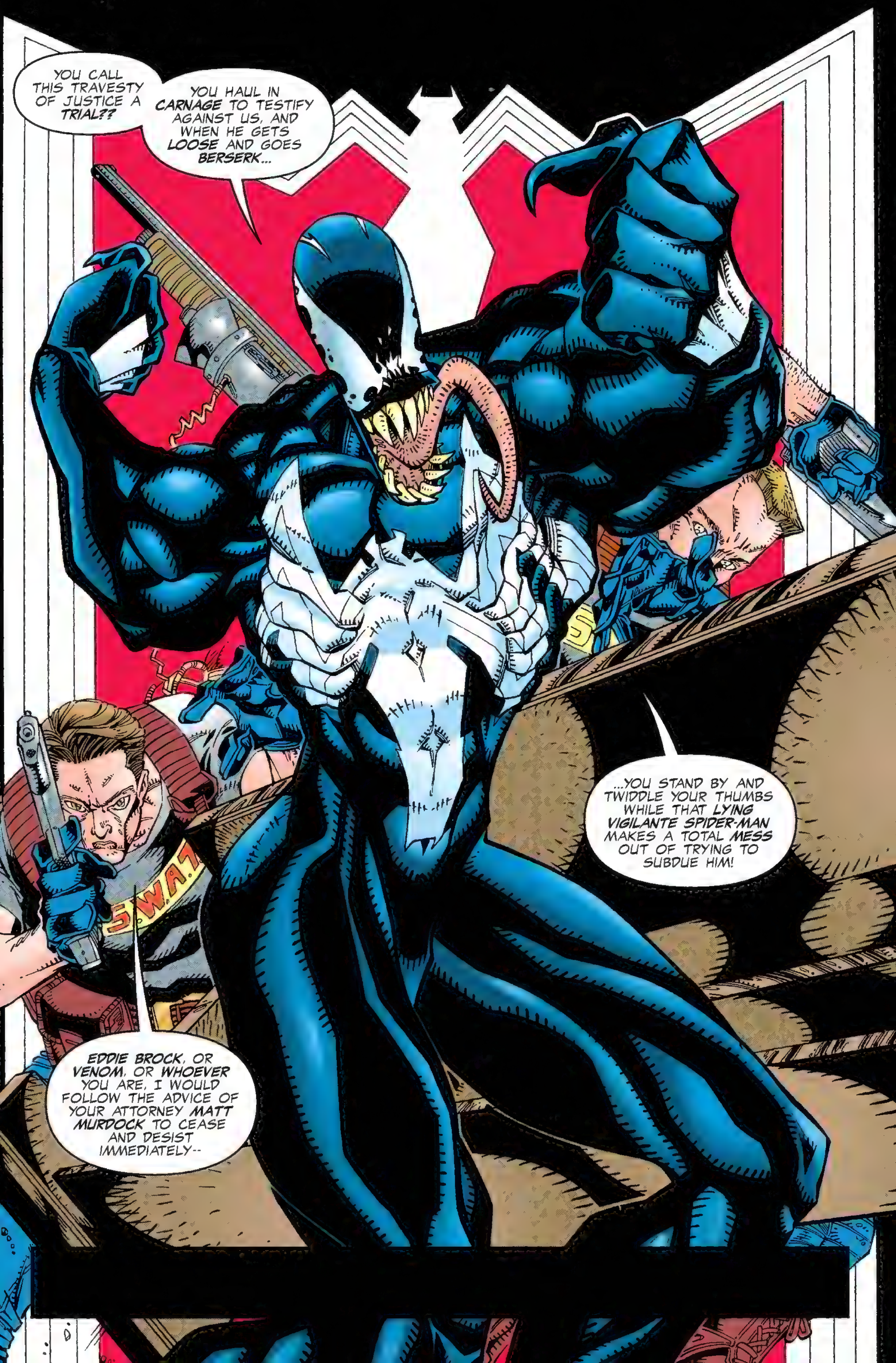

OH, IT'S HAPPENING, ALL RIGHT!
YOU JUST CAN'T HOLD LITTLE CLETUS KASADY BACK FROM WANTIN' TO BOND WITH THE ALIEN IN HIS BLOOD--
--SO WE CAN EAT ALL YOUR BRAINS!!
BUT FIRST, I'M GONNA CHOMP DOWN ON THE HEAD OF DADDY DEAREST!


WE'VE GOT ALL THESE FLAME-THROWERS AND HEAVY HARDWARE--
--BUT NO WAY CAN WE OPEN FIRE IN THIS CROWD!!
EXCUSE ME, DOC--
HEY, DON'T MIND ME!
YOU SHOULD CUT OUT THE GROSS SLOBBERING, CHUM, YOU'LL MAKE A BAD IMPRESSION--
--IN THE WALL!
HOO-HA!!
THAT'S SO FUNNY, I FORGOT TO DIE!
LOOKS LIKE I GET A SPIDER-MAN APPETIZER BEFORE I CHOW DOWN ON THE VENOM MAIN COURSE!
YEESH! I FORGOT HOW FAST THIS WACKO IS!
GOTTA USE MY WITS!
MS. HIDALGO, CONTROL YOUR WITNESS!
WITH WHAT?


COUNSELOR, WE ARE MOVING THE DEFENDANT TO A HIGH SECURITY AREA!
NO! I NEED TO BE *HERE!*
EDDIE, AS YOUR ATTORNEY, I STRONGLY ADVISE--
WE DON'T *NEED* YOUR ADVICE ANY MORE, MURDOCK...
...WE ARE TOGETHER AGAIN!!
HE'S *LOOSE!!* BRING UP THE *SOUND GUNS!!*
EDDIE, DON'T DO IT!!
CAN'T LET YOU STOP ME!
SOMEBODY HAS TO DO IT, MATT...


...SOMEBODY HAS TO SAVE SPIDER-MAN!
OY...
NEXT: TRIAL AND ERROR!


MARVEL COMICS
VENOM
ON TRIAL
THE SHOCKING CONCLUSION!
featuring
SPIDER-MAN!
DAREDEVIL!
CARNAGE!
SPIDER-MAN
MAY '97
3
J HOOD
FISHER


YOU CALL THIS TRAVESTY OF JUSTICE A *TRIAL??*
YOU HAUL IN *CARNAGE* TO TESTIFY AGAINST US, AND WHEN HE GETS *LOOSE* AND GOES *BERSERK*...
...YOU STAND BY AND TWIDDLE YOUR THUMBS WHILE THAT *LYING VIGILANTE SPIDER-MAN* MAKES A TOTAL *MESS* OUT OF TRYING TO SUBDUE HIM!
EDDIE BROCK, OR *VENOM*, OR *WHOEVER* YOU ARE, I WOULD FOLLOW THE ADVICE OF YOUR ATTORNEY *MATT MURDOCK* TO CEASE AND DESIST IMMEDIATELY--
S.W.A.T.

[redacted]

TRIAL AND ERROR!

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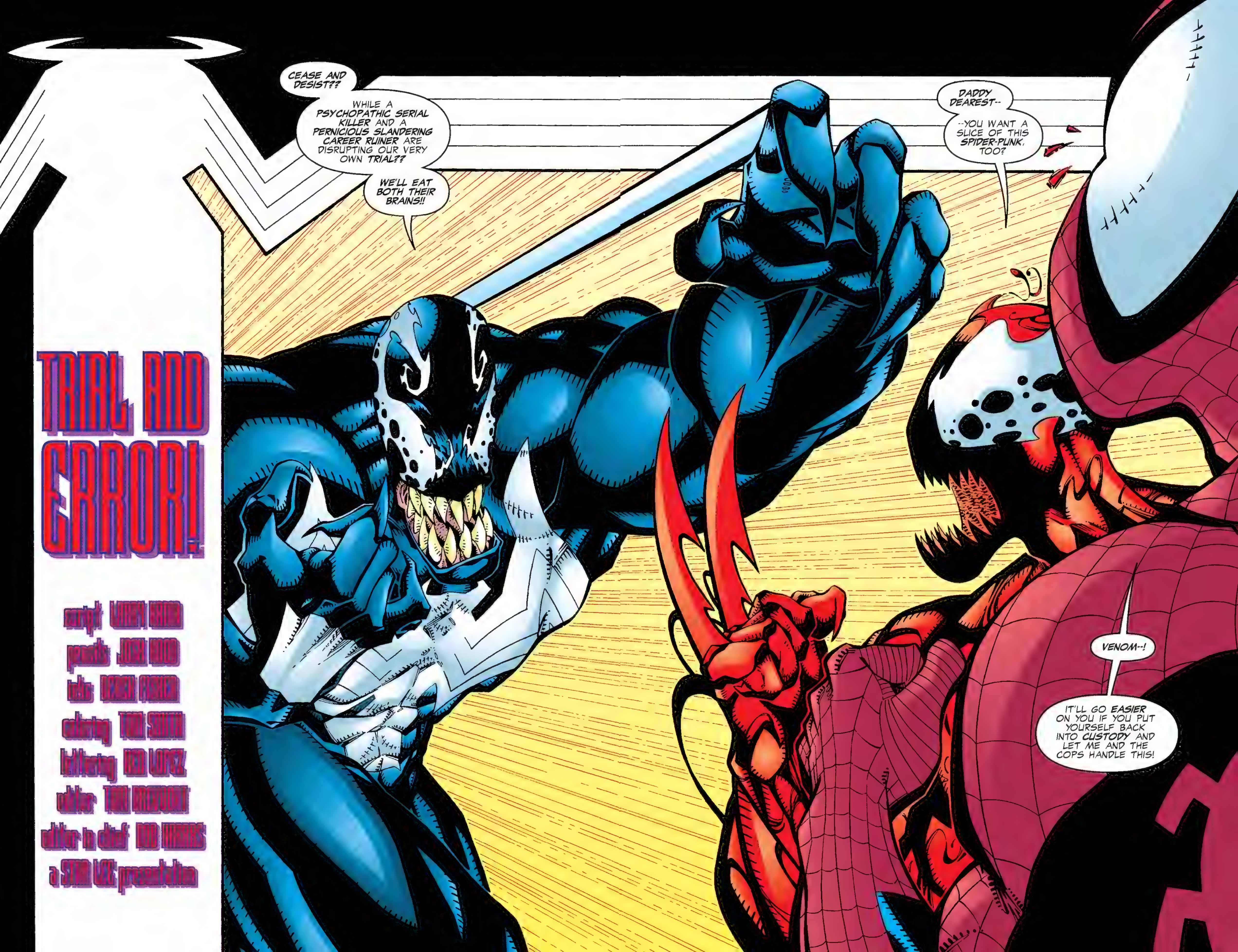
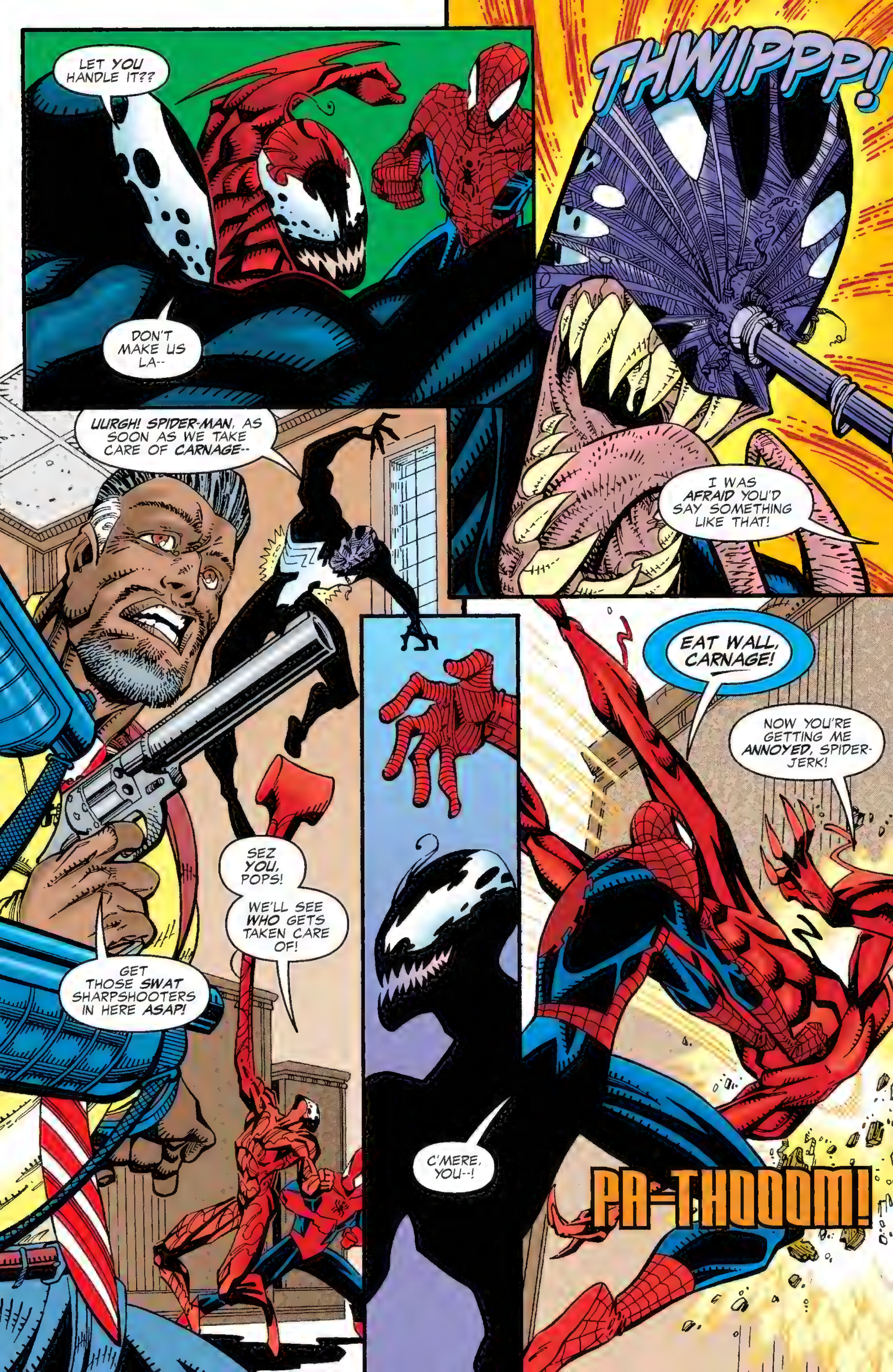
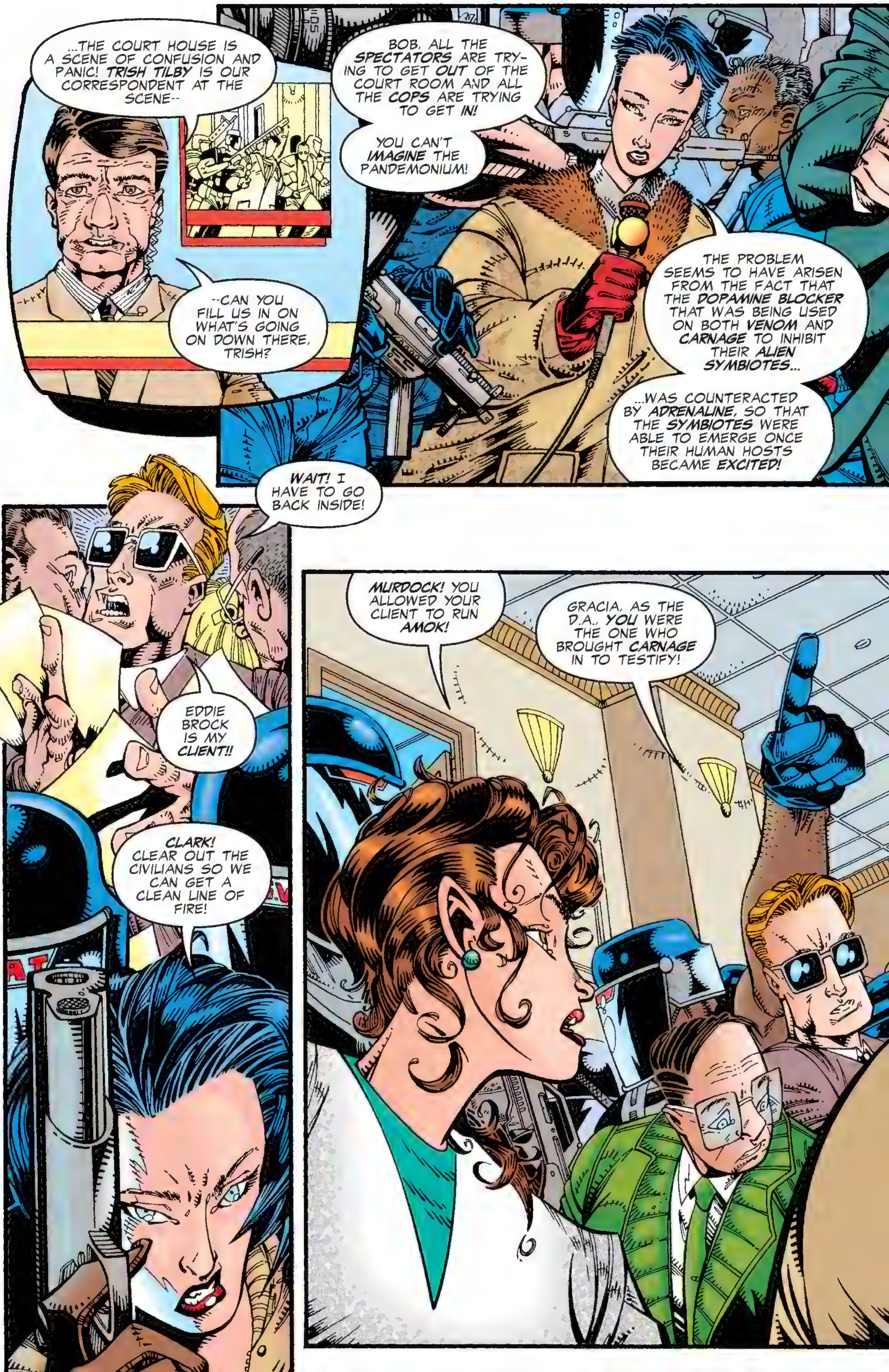
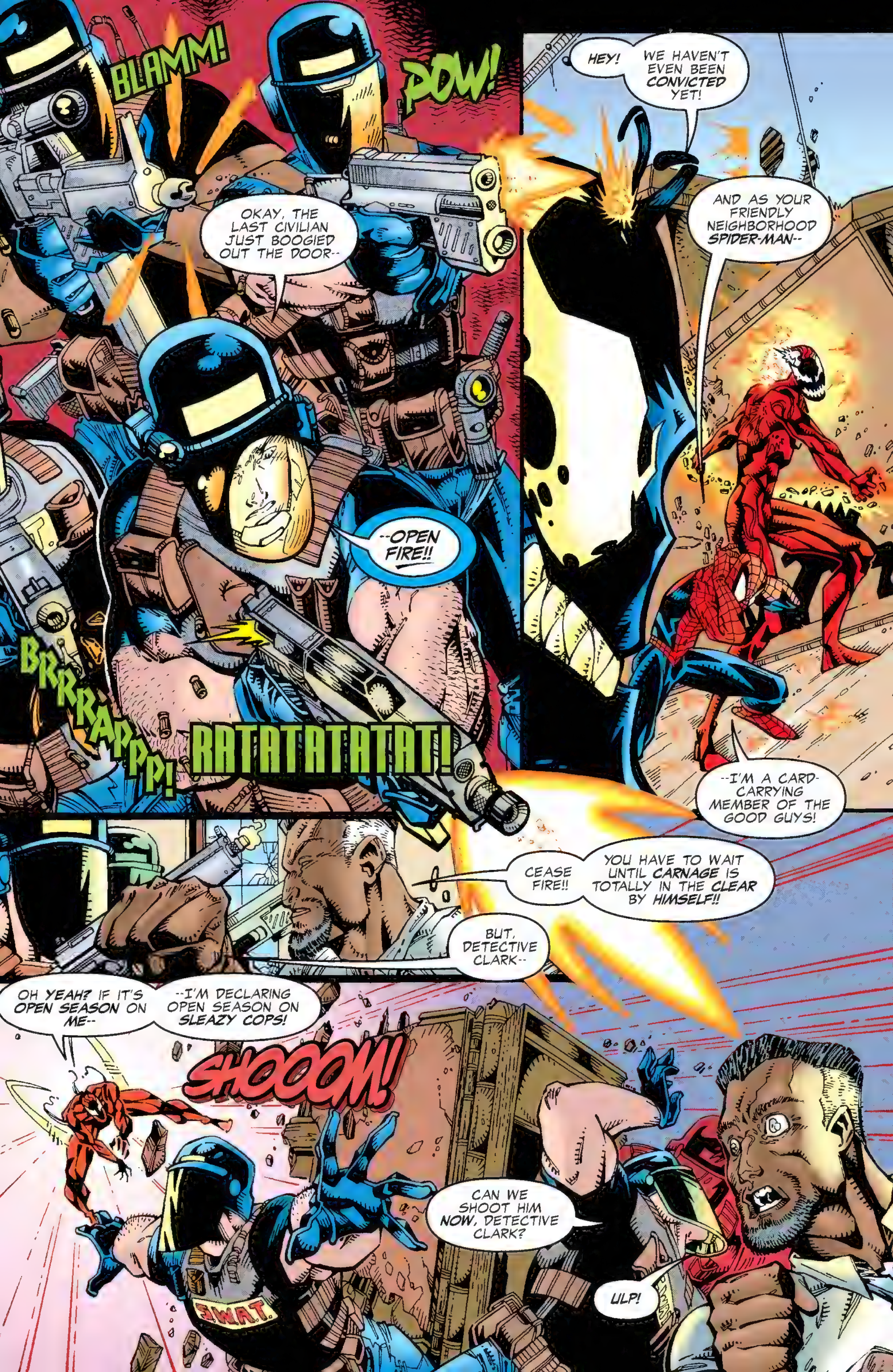
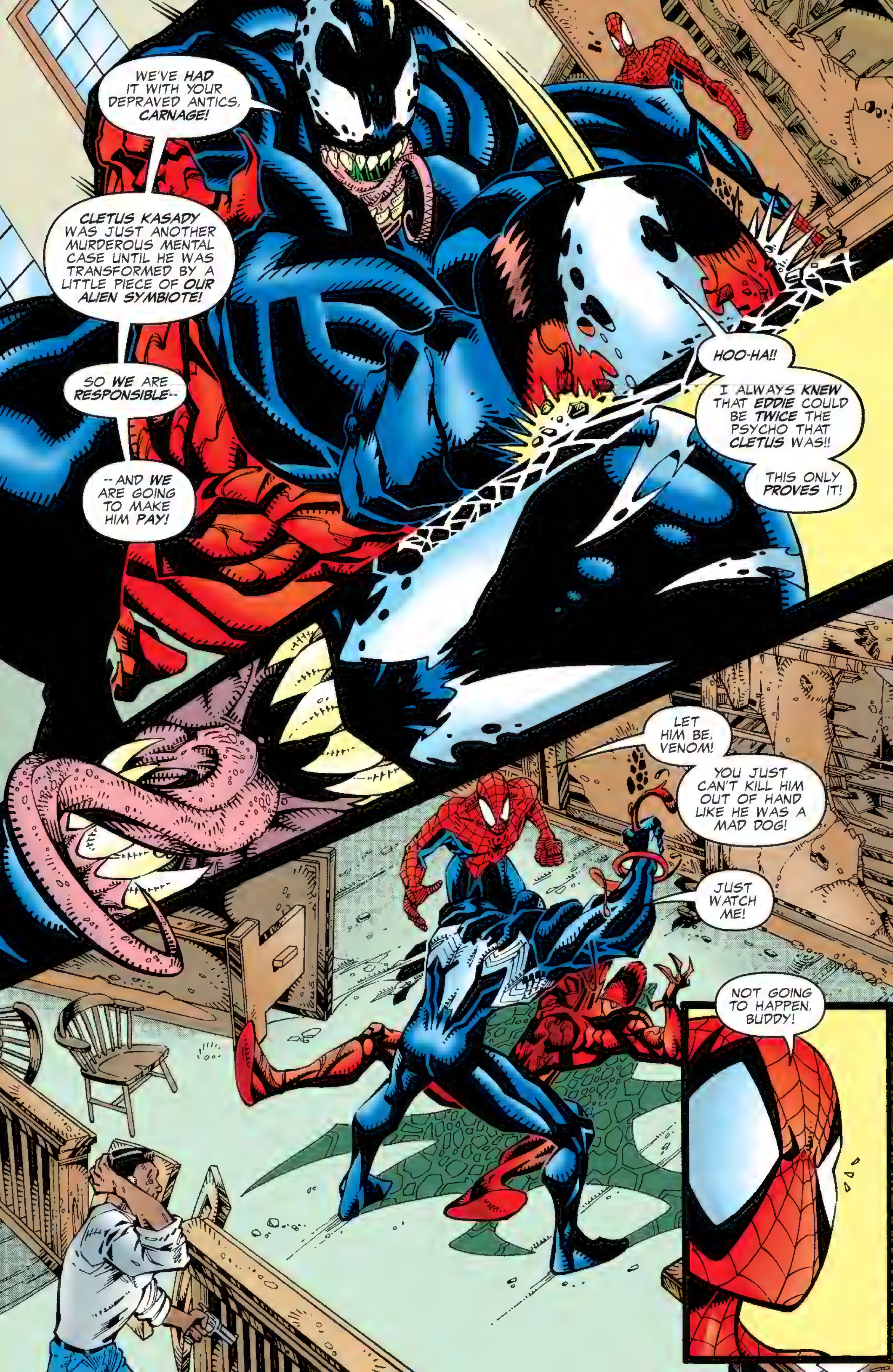
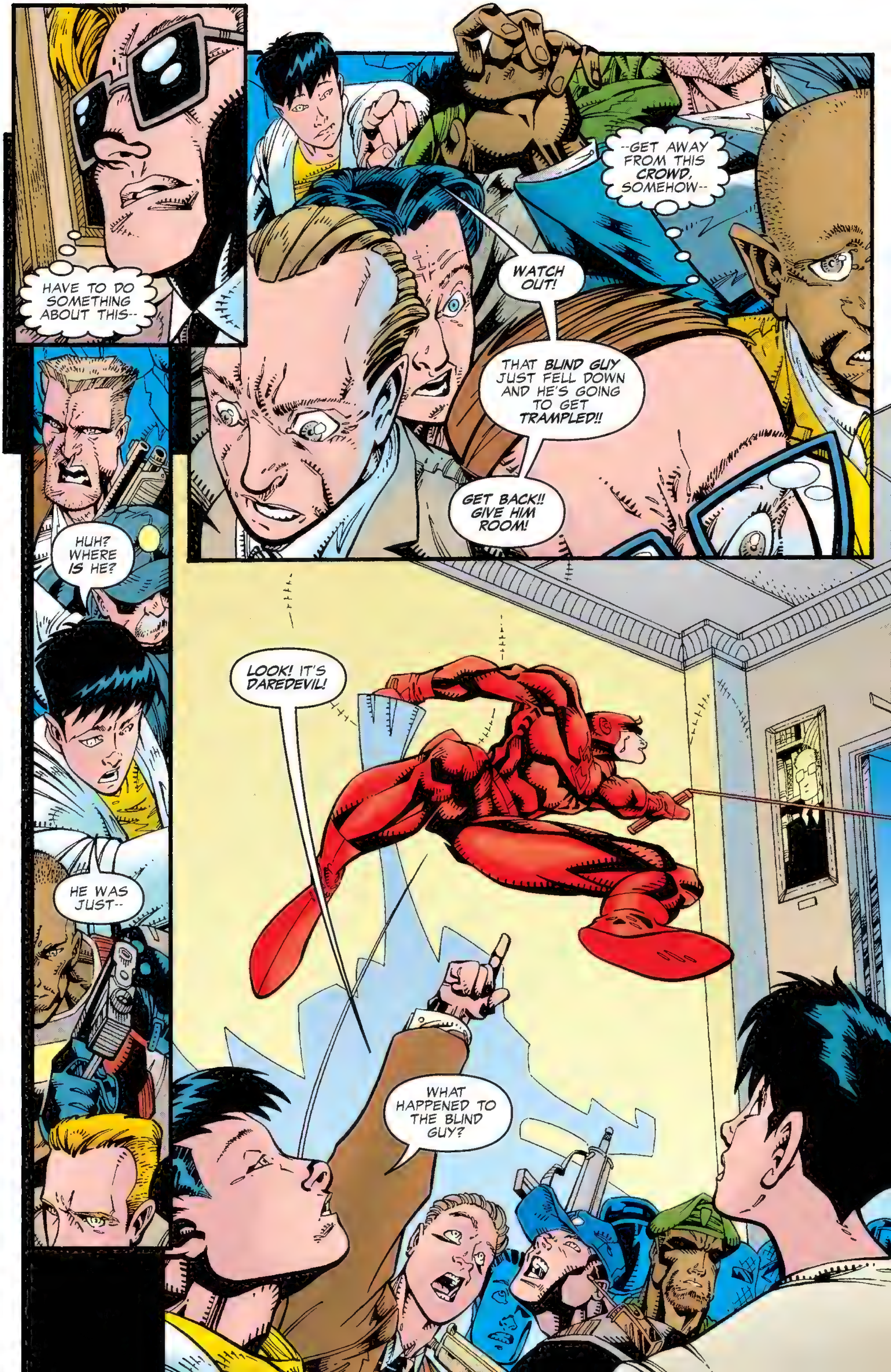

CEASE AND DESIST??
WHILE A PSYCHOPATHIC SERIAL KILLER AND A PERNICIOUS SLANDERING CAREER RUINER ARE DISRUPTING OUR VERY OWN TRIAL??
WE'LL EAT BOTH THEIR BRAINS!!
DADDY DEAREST--
--YOU WANT A SLICE OF THIS SPIDER-PUNK, TOO?
VENOM--!
IT'LL GO EASIER ON YOU IF YOU PUT YOURSELF BACK INTO CUSTODY AND LET ME AND THE COPS HANDLE THIS!

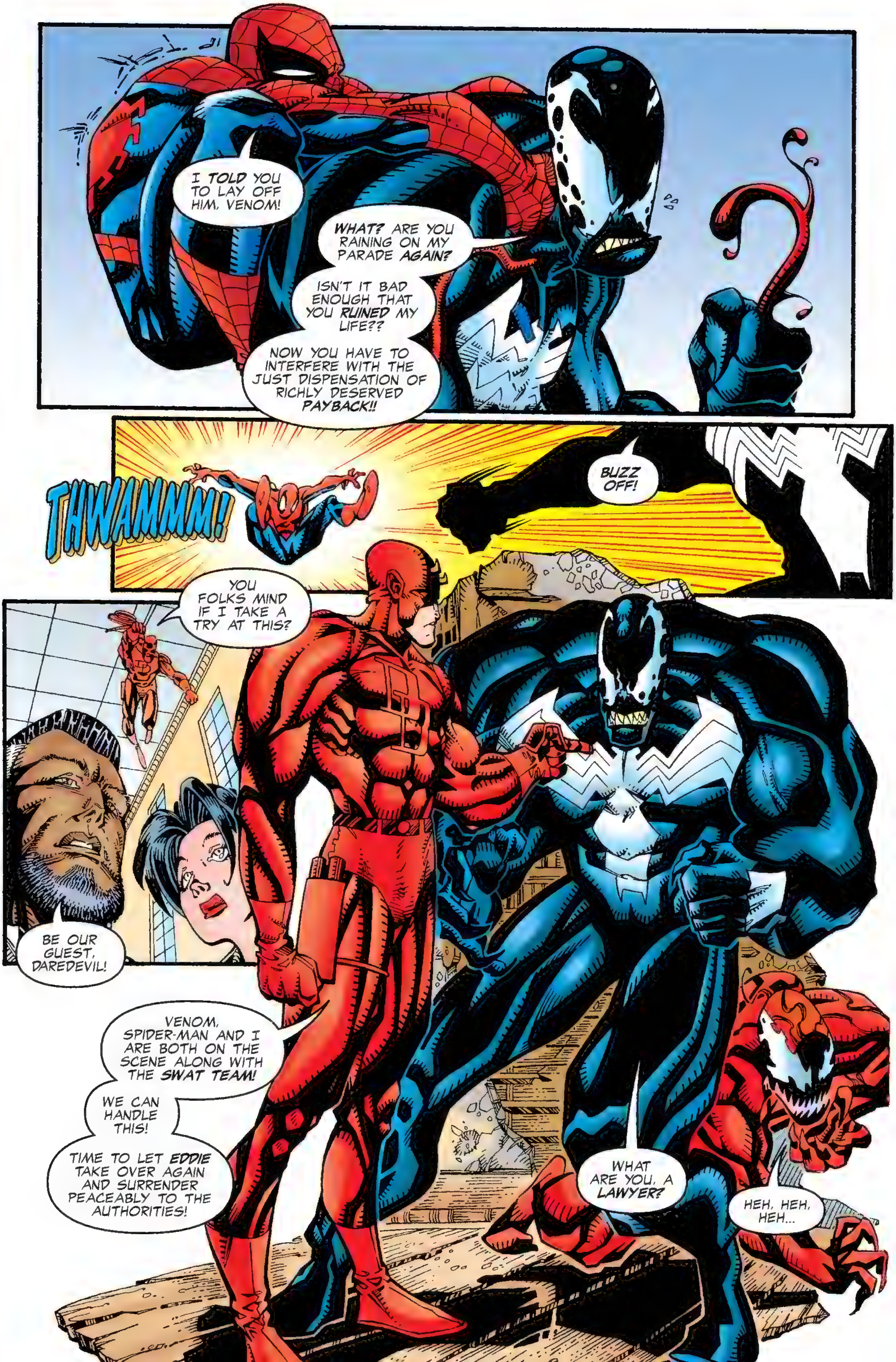

LET YOU HANDLE IT??
DON'T MAKE US LA--
THWIPPP!
I WAS AFRAID YOU'D SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
UURGH! SPIDER-MAN, AS SOON AS WE TAKE CARE OF CARNAGE--
SEZ YOU, POPS!
WE'LL SEE WHO GETS TAKEN CARE OF!
GET THOSE SWAT SHARPSHOOTERS IN HERE ASAP!
EAT WALL, CARNAGE!
NOW YOU'RE GETTING ME ANNOYED, SPIDER-JERK!
C'MERE, YOU--!
PA-THOOOM!

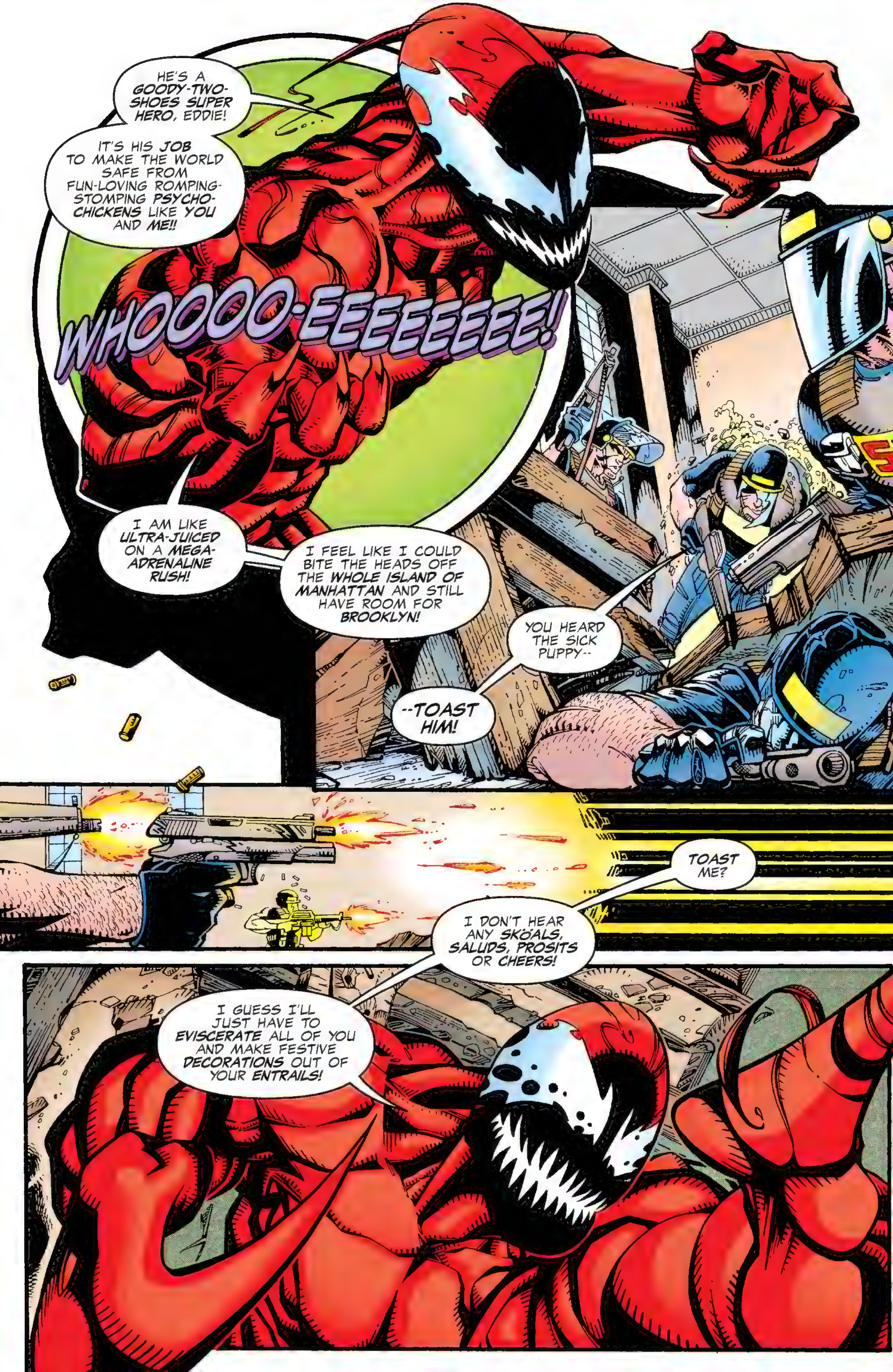

...THE COURT HOUSE IS A SCENE OF CONFUSION AND PANIC! TRISH TILBY IS OUR CORRESPONDENT AT THE SCENE--
BOB, ALL THE SPECTATORS ARE TRYING TO GET OUT OF THE COURT ROOM AND ALL THE COPS ARE TRYING TO GET IN!
YOU CAN'T IMAGINE THE PANDEMONIUM!
--CAN YOU FILL US IN ON WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE, TRISH?
THE PROBLEM SEEMS TO HAVE ARISEN FROM THE FACT THAT THE DOPAMINE BLOCKER THAT WAS BEING USED ON BOTH VENOM AND CARNAGE TO INHIBIT THEIR ALIEN SYMBIOTES...
...WAS COUNTERACTED BY ADRENALINE, SO THAT THE SYMBIOTES WERE ABLE TO EMERGE ONCE THEIR HUMAN HOSTS BECAME EXCITED!
WAIT! I HAVE TO GO BACK INSIDE!
EDDIE BROCK IS MY CLIENT!!
CLARK! CLEAR OUT THE CIVILIANS SO WE CAN GET A CLEAN LINE OF FIRE!
MURDOCK! YOU ALLOWED YOUR CLIENT TO RUN AMOK!
GRACIA, AS THE D.A., YOU WERE THE ONE WHO BROUGHT CARNAGE IN TO TESTIFY!

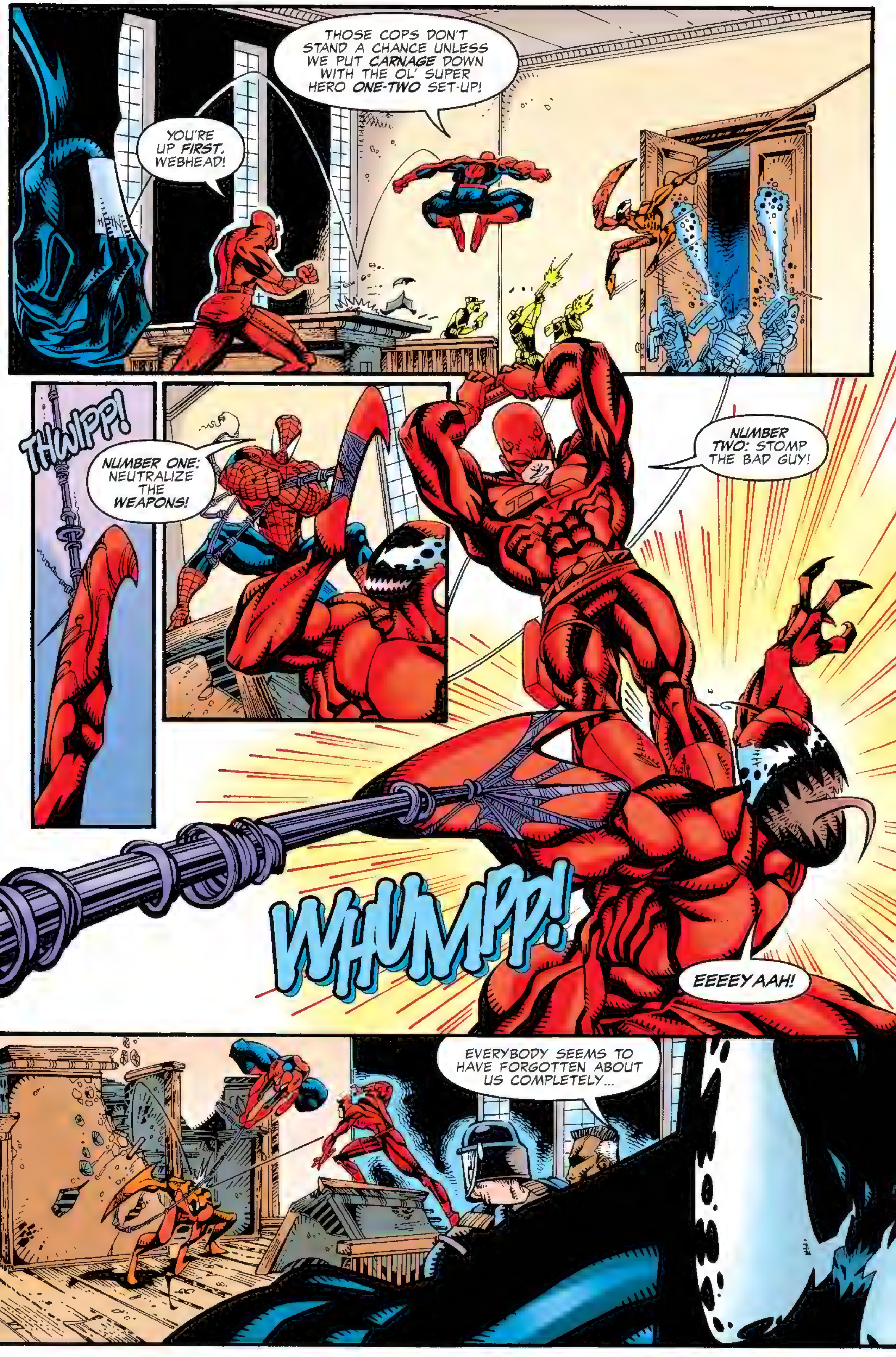

BLAMM!
POW!
OKAY, THE LAST CIVILIAN JUST BOOGIED OUT THE DOOR--
--OPEN FIRE!!
BRRRAPPP!
RATATATATAT!
HEY!
WE HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN CONVICTED YET!
AND AS YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN--
--I'M A CARD-CARRYING MEMBER OF THE GOOD GUYS!
CEASE FIRE!!
YOU HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL CARNAGE IS TOTALLY IN THE CLEAR BY HIMSELF!!
BUT, DETECTIVE CLARK--
OH YEAH? IF IT'S OPEN SEASON ON ME--
--I'M DECLARING OPEN SEASON ON SLEAZY COPS!
SHOOOM!
CAN WE SHOOT HIM NOW, DETECTIVE CLARK?
S.W.A.T.
ULP!

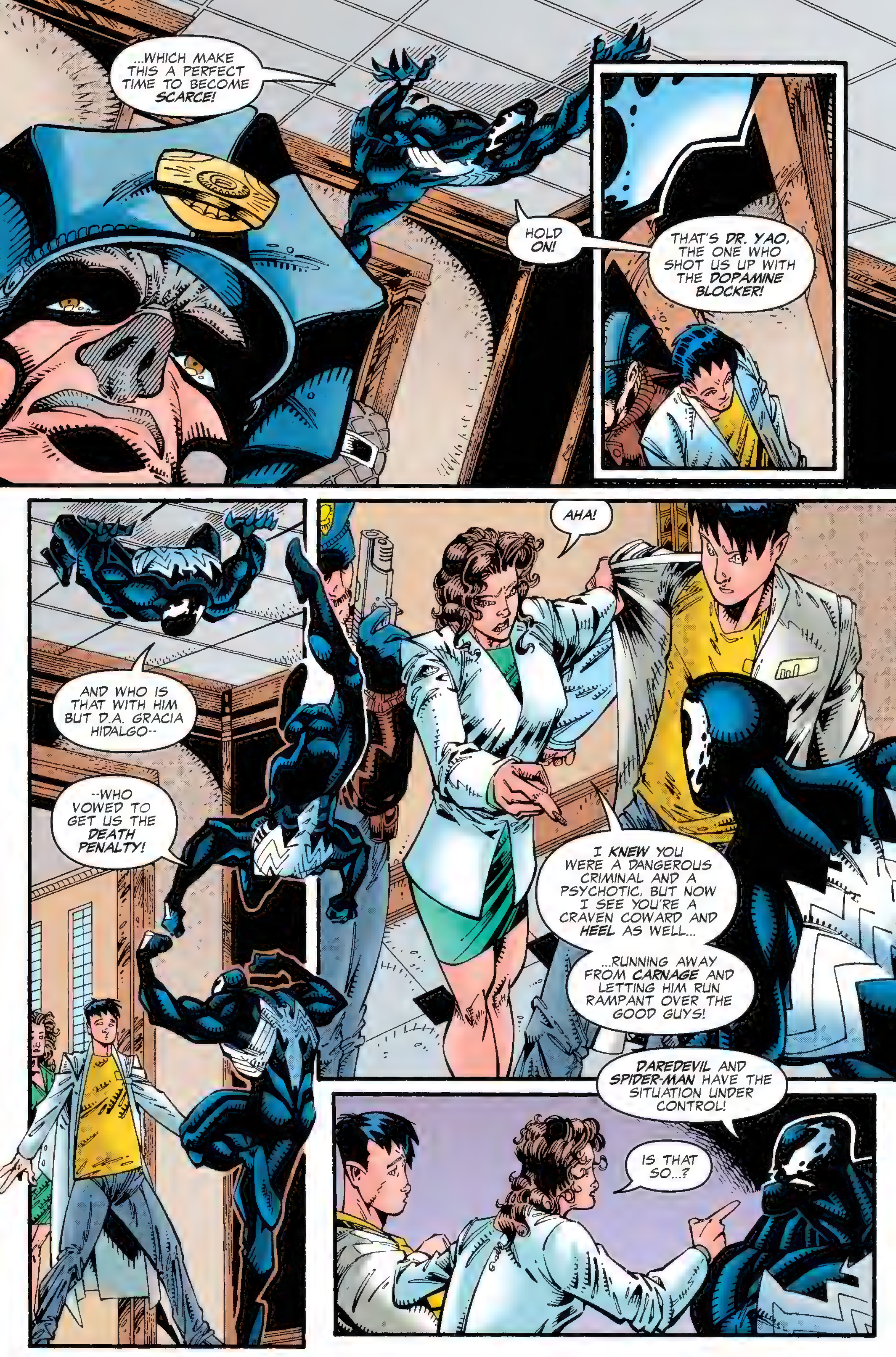

WE'VE HAD IT WITH YOUR DEPRAVED ANTICS, CARNAGE!
CLETUS KASADY WAS JUST ANOTHER MURDEROUS MENTAL CASE UNTIL HE WAS TRANSFORMED BY A LITTLE PIECE OF OUR ALIEN SYMBIOTE!
SO WE ARE RESPONSIBLE--
--AND WE ARE GOING TO MAKE HIM PAY!
HOO-HA!!
I ALWAYS KNEW THAT EDDIE COULD BE TWICE THE PSYCHO THAT CLETUS WAS!!
THIS ONLY PROVES IT!
LET HIM BE, VENOM!
YOU JUST CAN'T KILL HIM OUT OF HAND LIKE HE WAS A MAD DOG!
JUST WATCH ME!
NOT GOING TO HAPPEN, BUDDY!

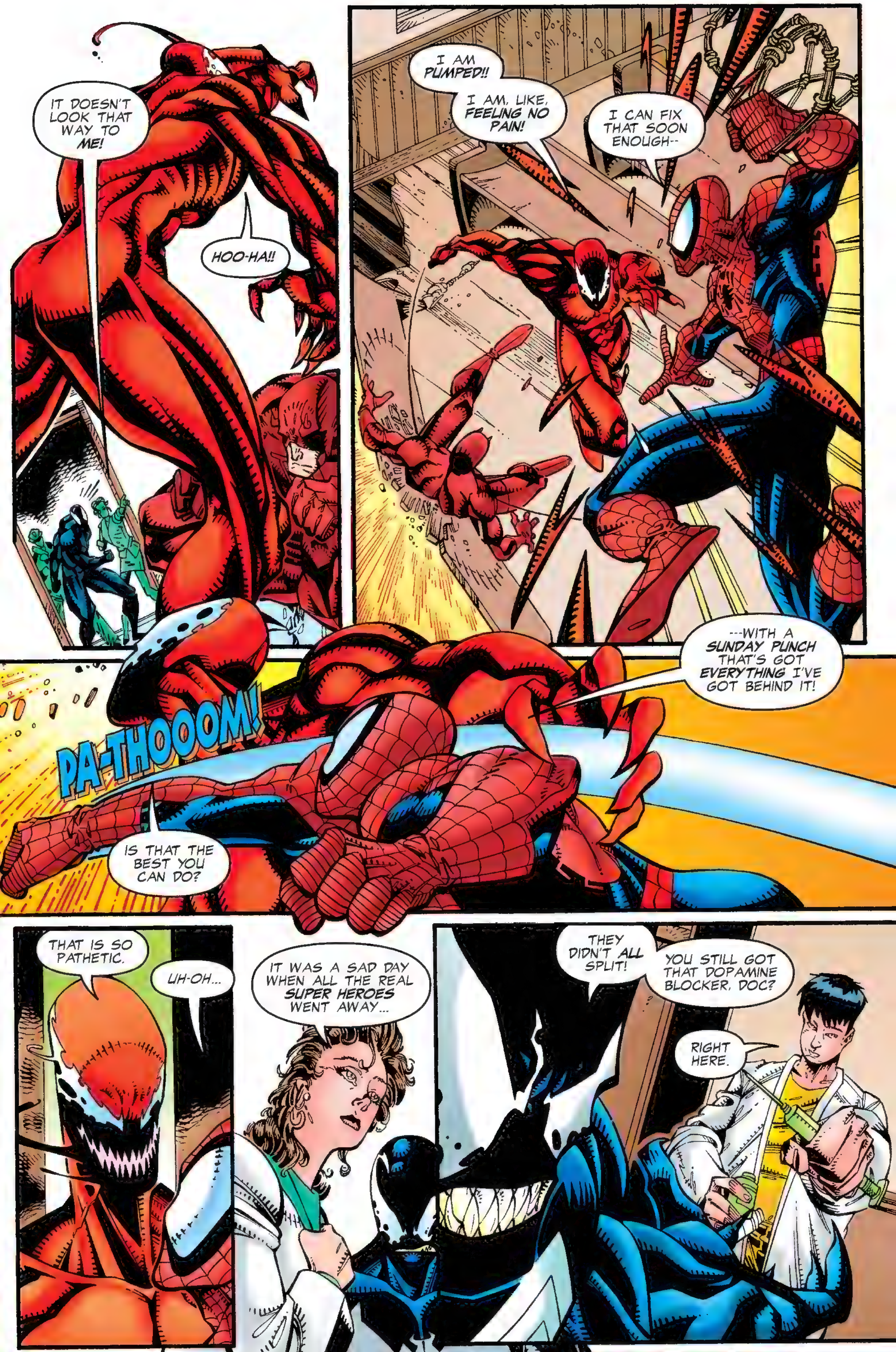

HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS--
--GET AWAY FROM THIS CROWD, SOMEHOW--
WATCH OUT!
THAT BLIND GUY JUST FELL DOWN AND HE'S GOING TO GET TRAMPLED!!
GET BACK!! GIVE HIM ROOM!
HUH? WHERE IS HE?
HE WAS JUST--
LOOK! IT'S DAREDEVIL!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BLIND GUY?

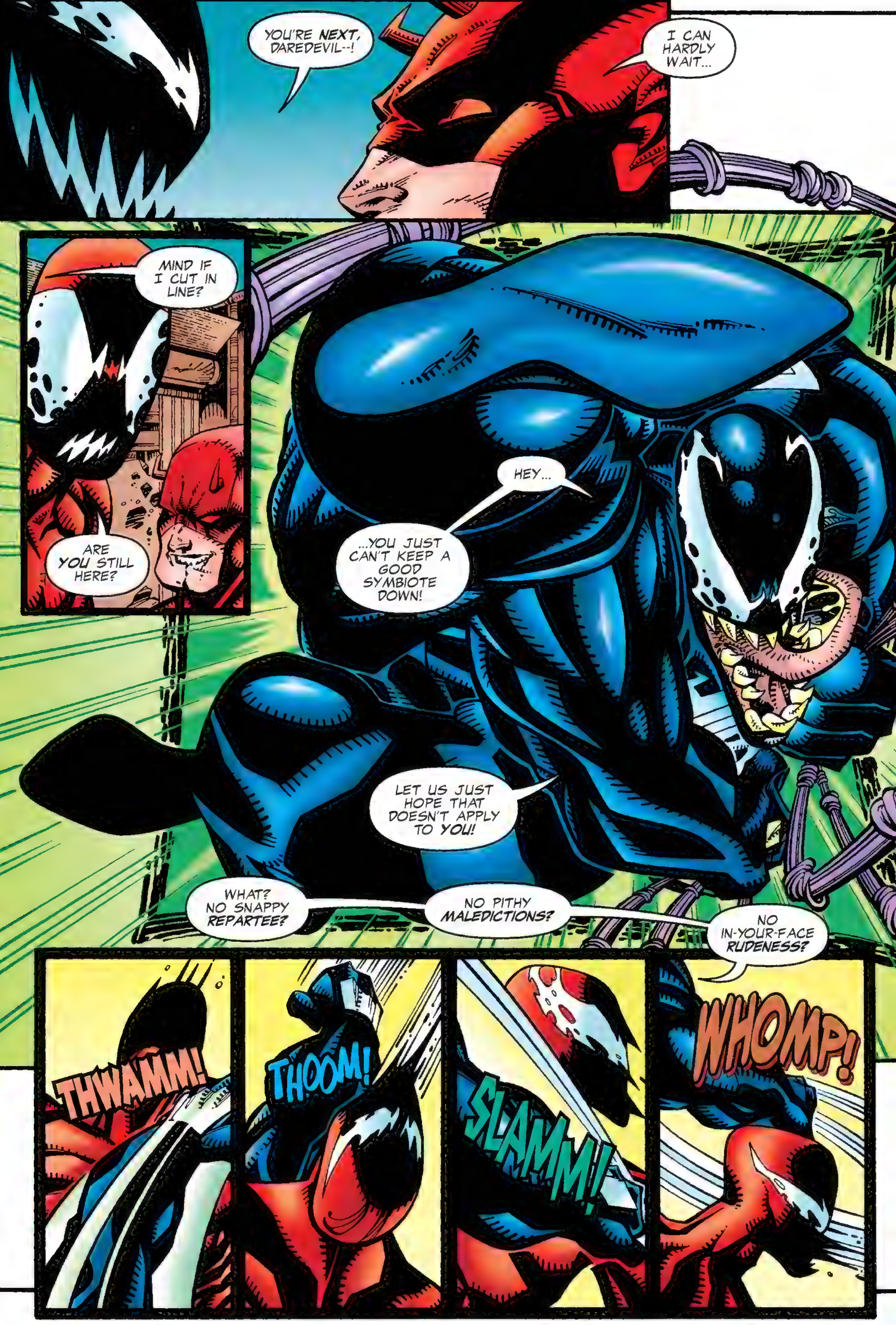

I *TOLD* YOU TO LAY OFF HIM, VENOM!
WHAT? ARE YOU RAINING ON MY PARADE *AGAIN?*
ISN'T IT BAD ENOUGH THAT YOU *RUINED* MY LIFE??
NOW YOU HAVE TO INTERFERE WITH THE JUST DISPENSATION OF RICHLY DESERVED *PAYBACK!!*
THWAMMM!
BUZZ OFF!
YOU FOLKS MIND IF I TAKE A TRY AT THIS?
BE OUR GUEST, DAREDEVIL!
VENOM, SPIDER-MAN AND I ARE BOTH ON THE SCENE ALONG WITH THE *SWAT TEAM!*
WE CAN HANDLE THIS!
TIME TO LET *EDDIE* TAKE OVER AGAIN AND SURRENDER PEACEABLY TO THE AUTHORITIES!
WHAT ARE YOU, A *LAWYER?*
HEH, HEH, HEH...

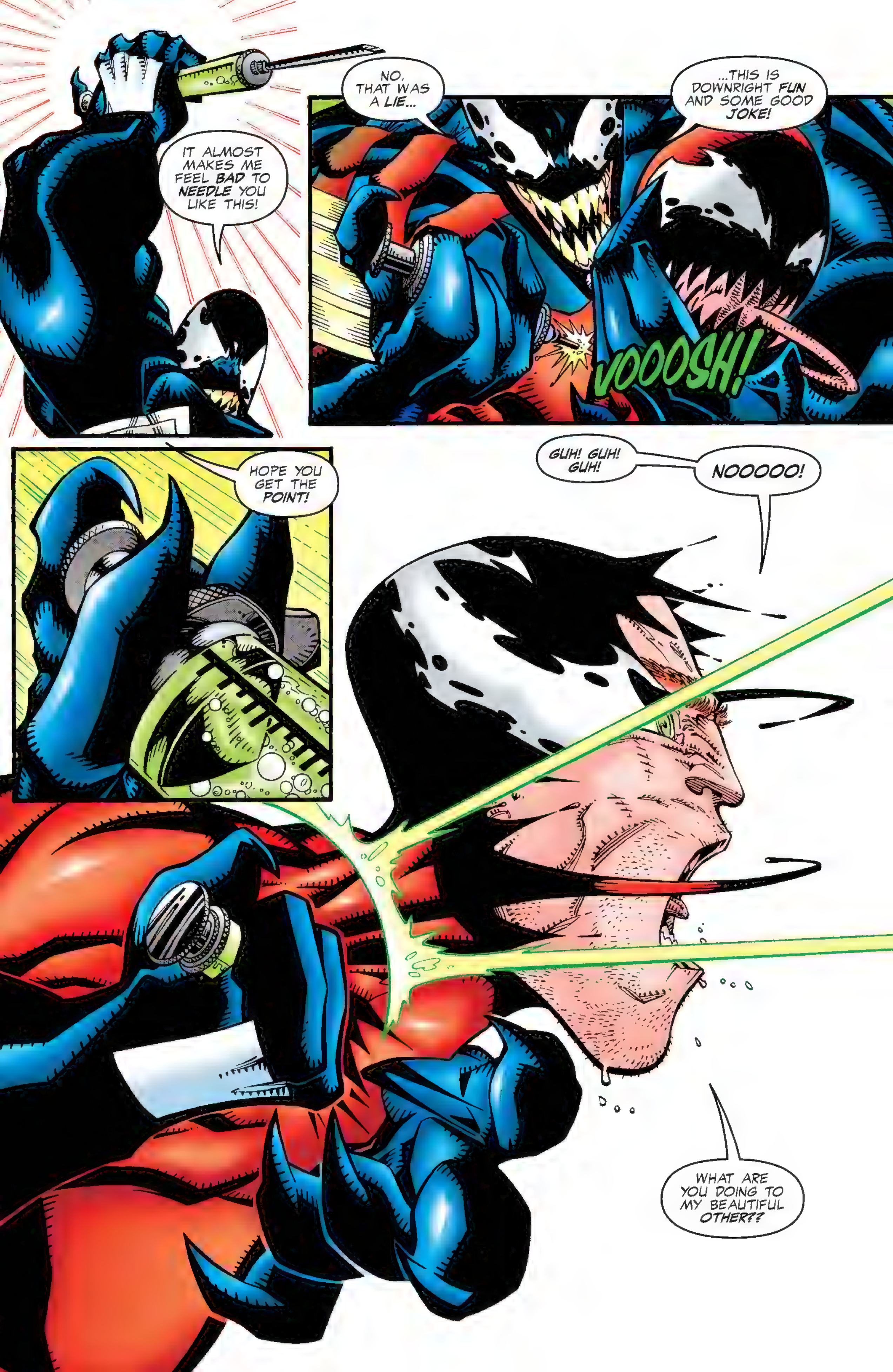

HE'S A GOODY-TWO-SHOES SUPER HERO, EDDIE!
IT'S HIS JOB TO MAKE THE WORLD SAFE FROM FUN-LOVING ROMPING-STOMPING PSYCHO-CHICKENS LIKE YOU AND ME!!
WHOOOOO-EEEEEEEEE!
I AM LIKE ULTRA-JUICED ON A MEGA-ADRENALINE RUSH!
I FEEL LIKE I COULD BITE THE HEADS OFF THE WHOLE ISLAND OF MANHATTAN AND STILL HAVE ROOM FOR BROOKLYN!
YOU HEARD THE SICK PUPPY--
--TOAST HIM!
TOAST ME?
I DON'T HEAR ANY SKÖALS, SALUDS, PROSITS OR CHEERS!
I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO EVISCERATE ALL OF YOU AND MAKE FESTIVE DECORATIONS OUT OF YOUR ENTRAILS!

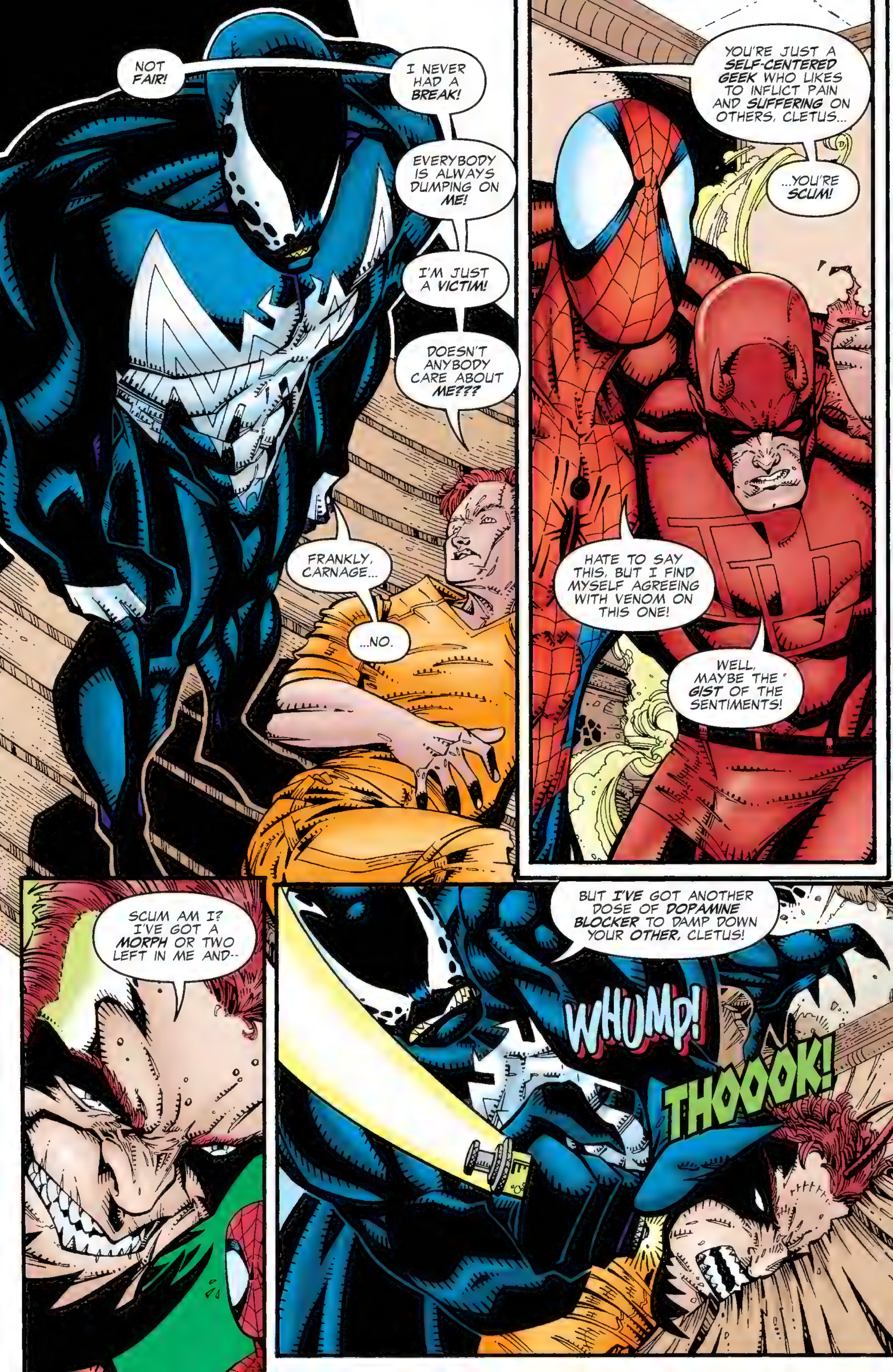

YOU'RE UP FIRST, WEBHEAD!
THOSE COPS DON'T STAND A CHANCE UNLESS WE PUT CARNAGE DOWN WITH THE OL' SUPER HERO ONE-TWO SET-UP!
THWIPP!
NUMBER ONE: NEUTRALIZE THE WEAPONS!
NUMBER TWO: STOMP THE BAD GUY!
WHUMPP!
EEEEYAAH!
EVERYBODY SEEMS TO HAVE FORGOTTEN ABOUT US COMPLETELY...

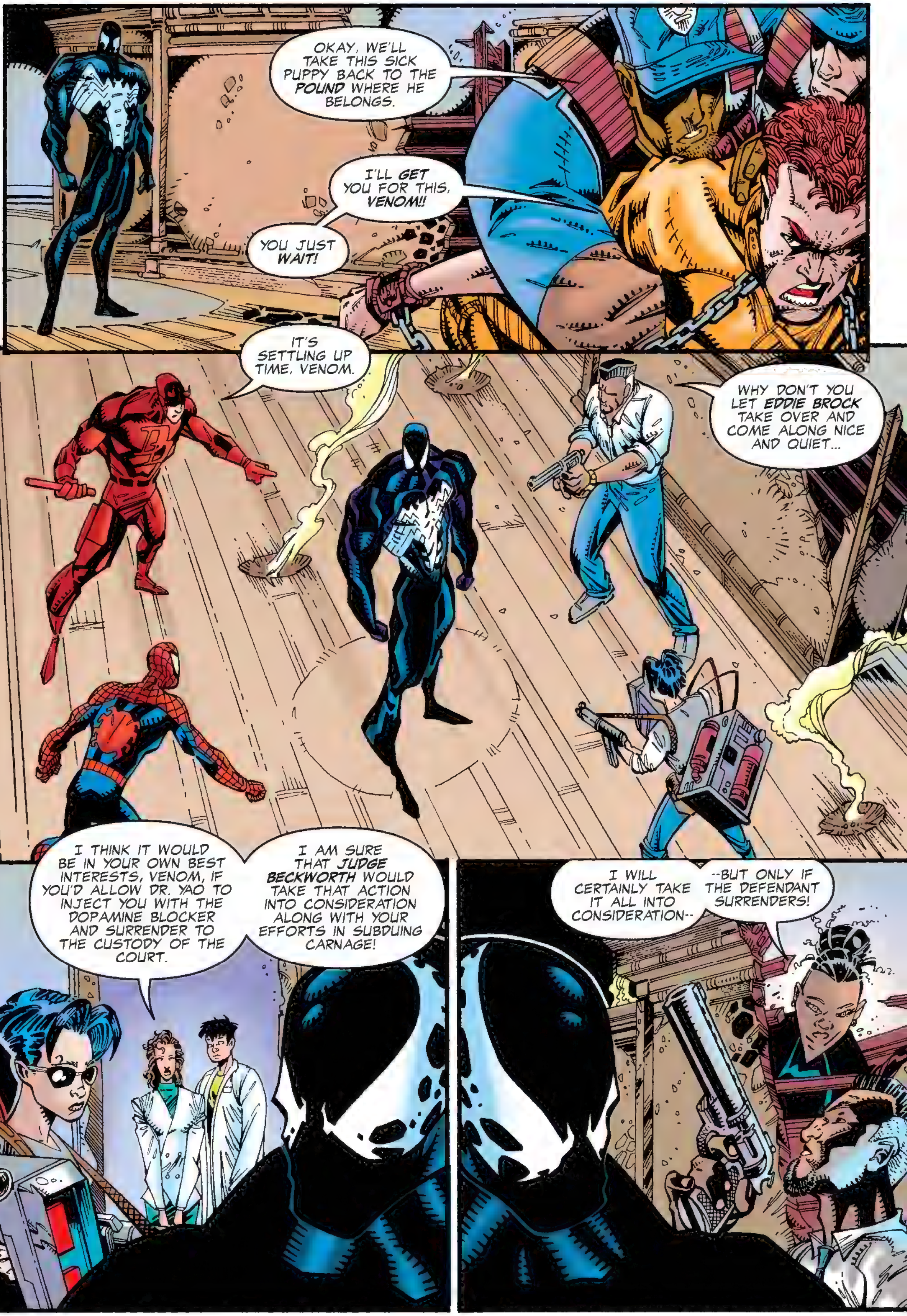

...WHICH MAKE THIS A PERFECT TIME TO BECOME **SCARCE!**
HOLD ON!
THAT'S **DR. YAO,** THE ONE WHO SHOT US UP WITH THE **DOPAMINE BLOCKER!**
AND WHO IS THAT WITH HIM BUT D.A. GRACIA HIDALGO--
--WHO VOWED TO GET US THE **DEATH PENALTY!**
AHA!
I **KNEW** YOU WERE A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL AND A PSYCHOTIC, BUT NOW I SEE YOU'RE A CRAVEN COWARD AND **HEEL** AS WELL...
...RUNNING AWAY FROM **CARNAGE** AND LETTING HIM RUN RAMPANT OVER THE GOOD GUYS!
DAREDEVIL AND **SPIDER-MAN** HAVE THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL!
IS THAT SO...?

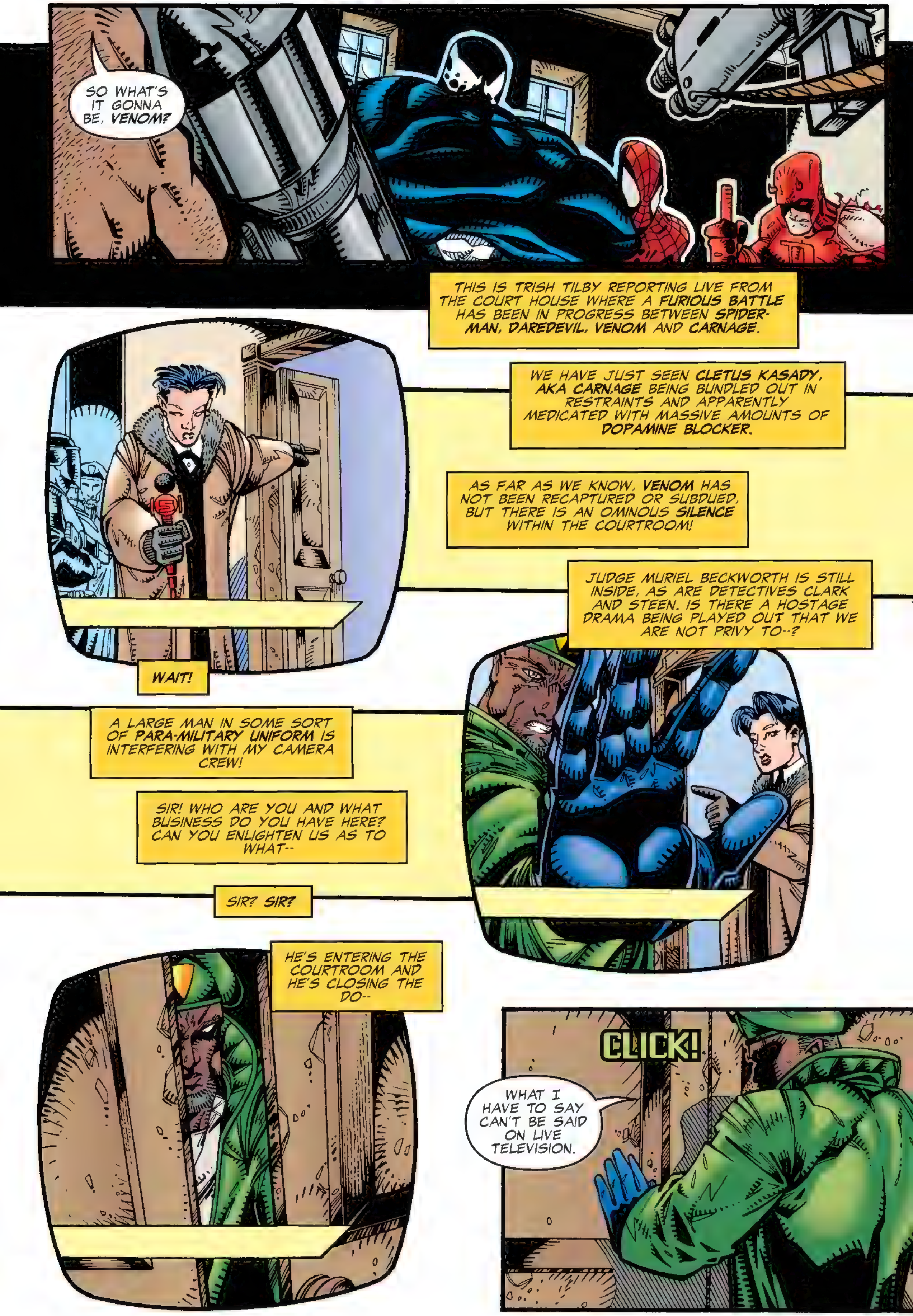

IT DOESN'T LOOK THAT WAY TO *ME!*
HOO-HA!!
I AM *PUMPED!!*
I AM, LIKE, *FEELING NO PAIN!*
I CAN FIX THAT SOON ENOUGH--
---WITH A *SUNDAY PUNCH* THAT'S GOT *EVERYTHING* I'VE GOT BEHIND IT!
PA-THOOOM!
IS THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO?
THAT IS SO PATHETIC.
UH-OH...
IT WAS A SAD DAY WHEN ALL THE REAL *SUPER HEROES* WENT AWAY...
THEY DIDN'T *ALL* SPLIT!
YOU STILL GOT THAT DOPAMINE BLOCKER, DOC?
RIGHT HERE.

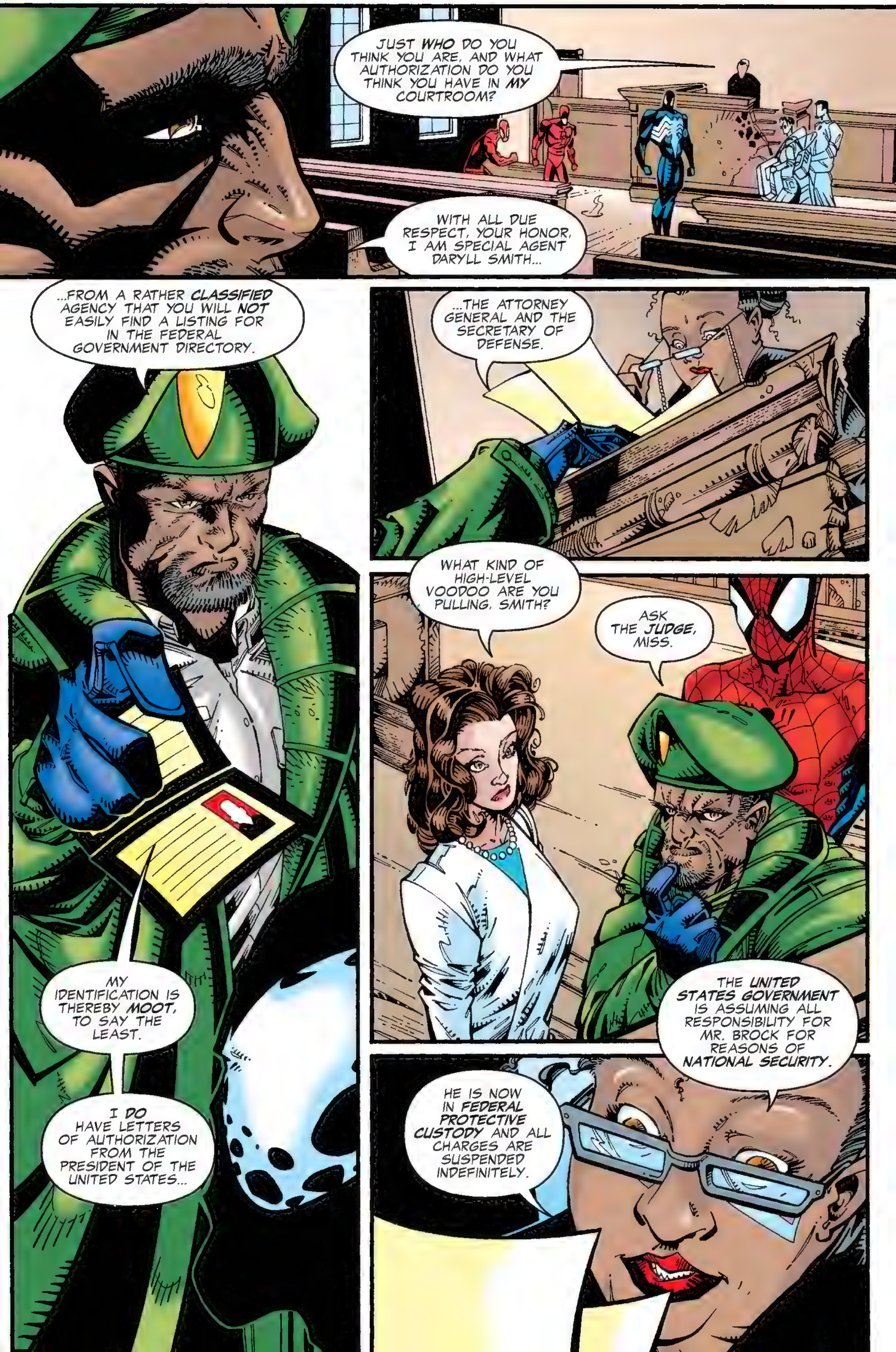

YOU'RE **NEXT**, DAREDEVIL--!
I CAN HARDLY WAIT...
MIND IF I CUT IN LINE?
ARE **YOU** STILL HERE?
HEY...
...YOU JUST CAN'T KEEP A GOOD SYMBIOTE DOWN!
LET US JUST HOPE THAT DOESN'T APPLY TO **YOU**!
WHAT? NO SNAPPY **REPARTEE?**
NO PITHY **MALEDICTIONS?**
NO IN-YOUR-FACE **RUDENESS?**
THWAMM!
THOOM!
SLAMM!
WHOMP!

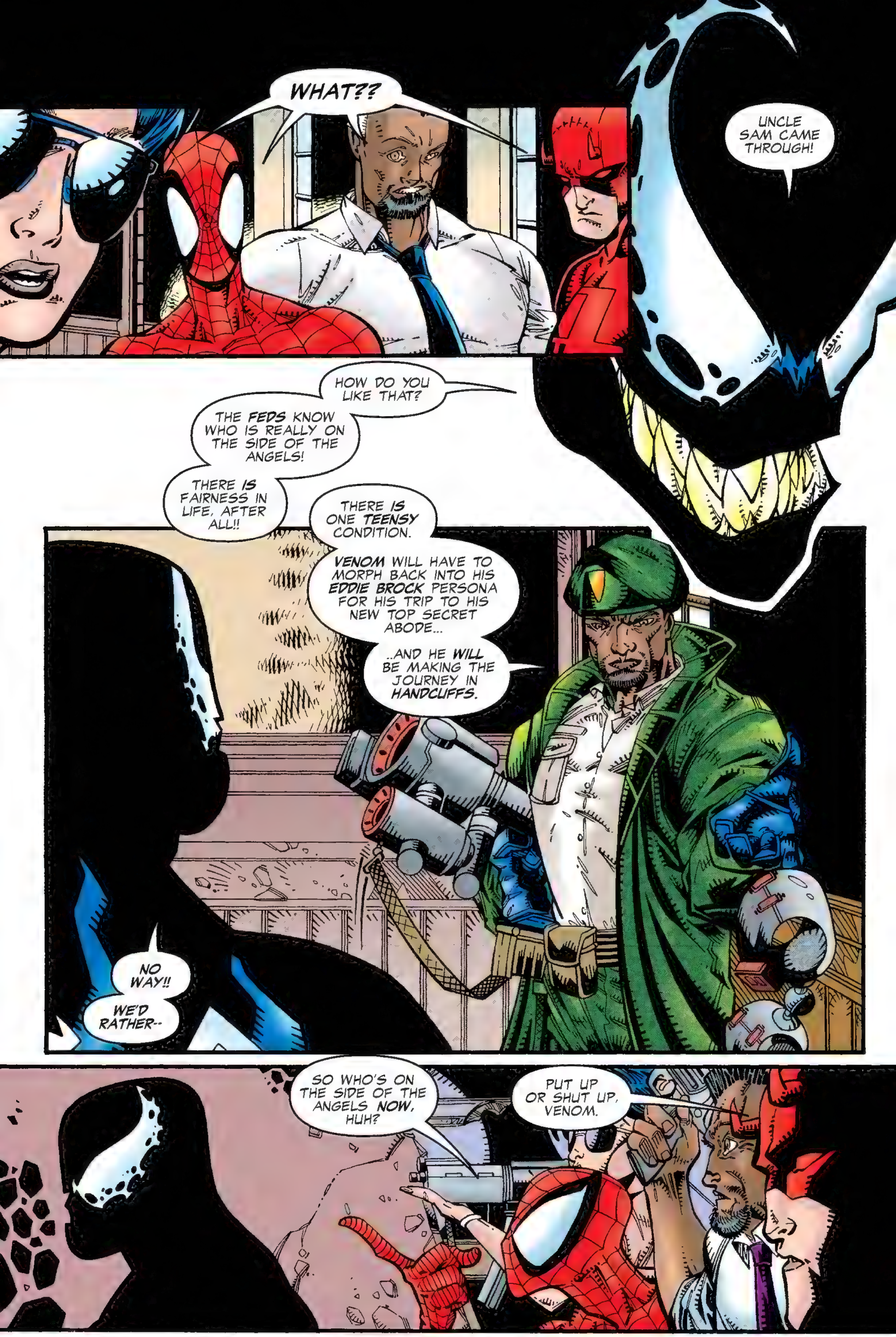

IT ALMOST MAKES ME FEEL **BAD** TO **NEEDLE** YOU LIKE THIS!
NO, THAT WAS A **LIE**...
...THIS IS DOWNRIGHT **FUN** AND SOME GOOD **JOKE!**
VOOOSH!
HOPE YOU GET THE **POINT!**
GUH! GUH! GUH!
NOOOOO!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MY BEAUTIFUL **OTHER??**

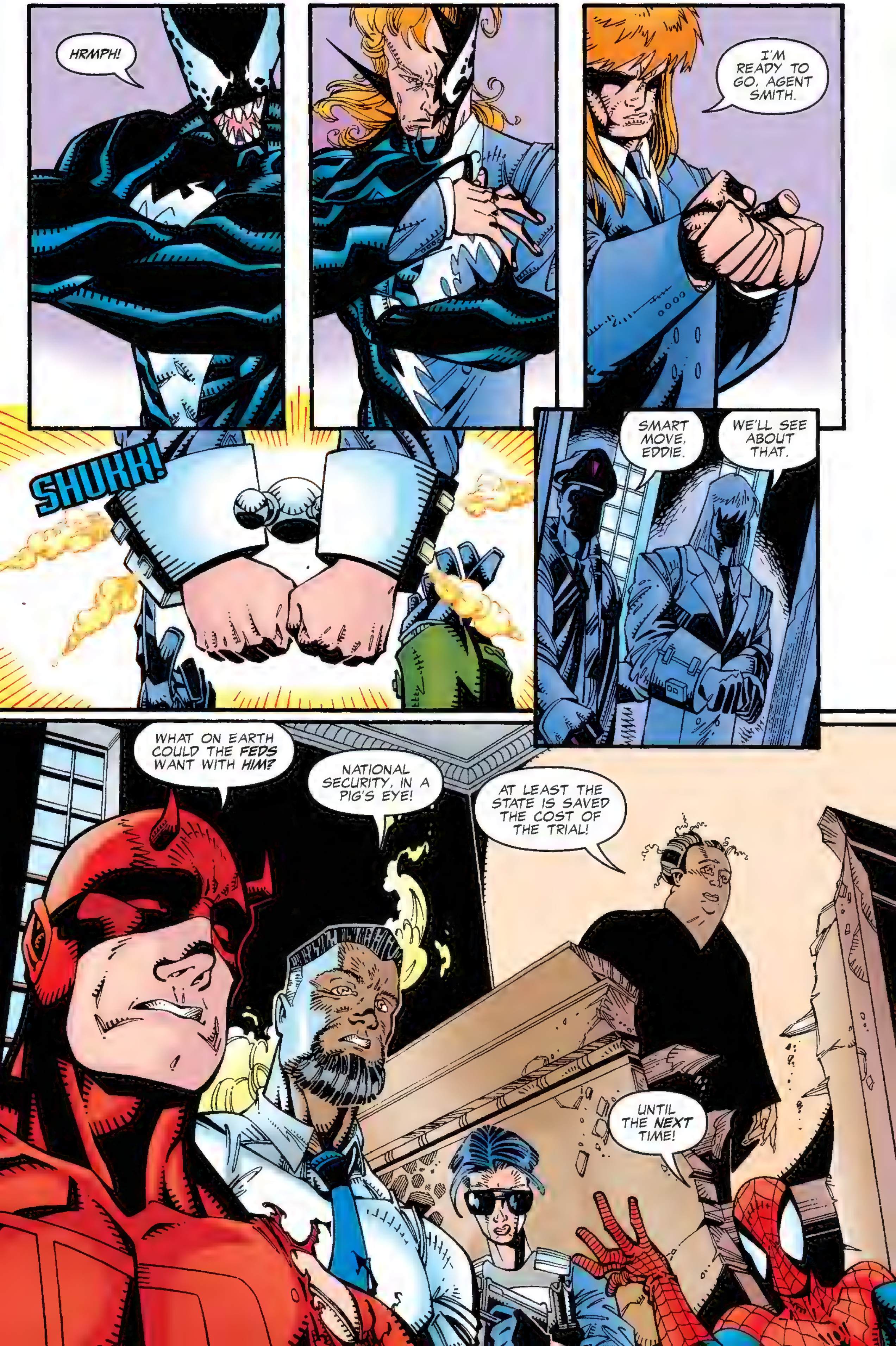

NOT **FAIR!**
I NEVER HAD A **BREAK!**
EVERYBODY IS ALWAYS DUMPING ON **ME!**
I'M JUST A **VICTIM!**
DOESN'T ANYBODY CARE ABOUT **ME???**
FRANKLY, CARNAGE...
...NO.
YOU'RE JUST A **SELF-CENTERED GEEK** WHO LIKES TO INFLICT PAIN AND **SUFFERING** ON OTHERS, CLETUS...
...YOU'RE **SCUM!**
HATE TO SAY THIS, BUT I FIND MYSELF AGREEING WITH VENOM ON THIS ONE!
WELL, MAYBE THE **GIST** OF THE SENTIMENTS!
SCUM AM I? I'VE GOT A **MORPH** OR TWO LEFT IN ME AND--
BUT **I'VE** GOT ANOTHER DOSE OF **DOPAMINE BLOCKER** TO DAMP DOWN YOUR **OTHER**, CLETUS!
WHUMP!
THOOOK!

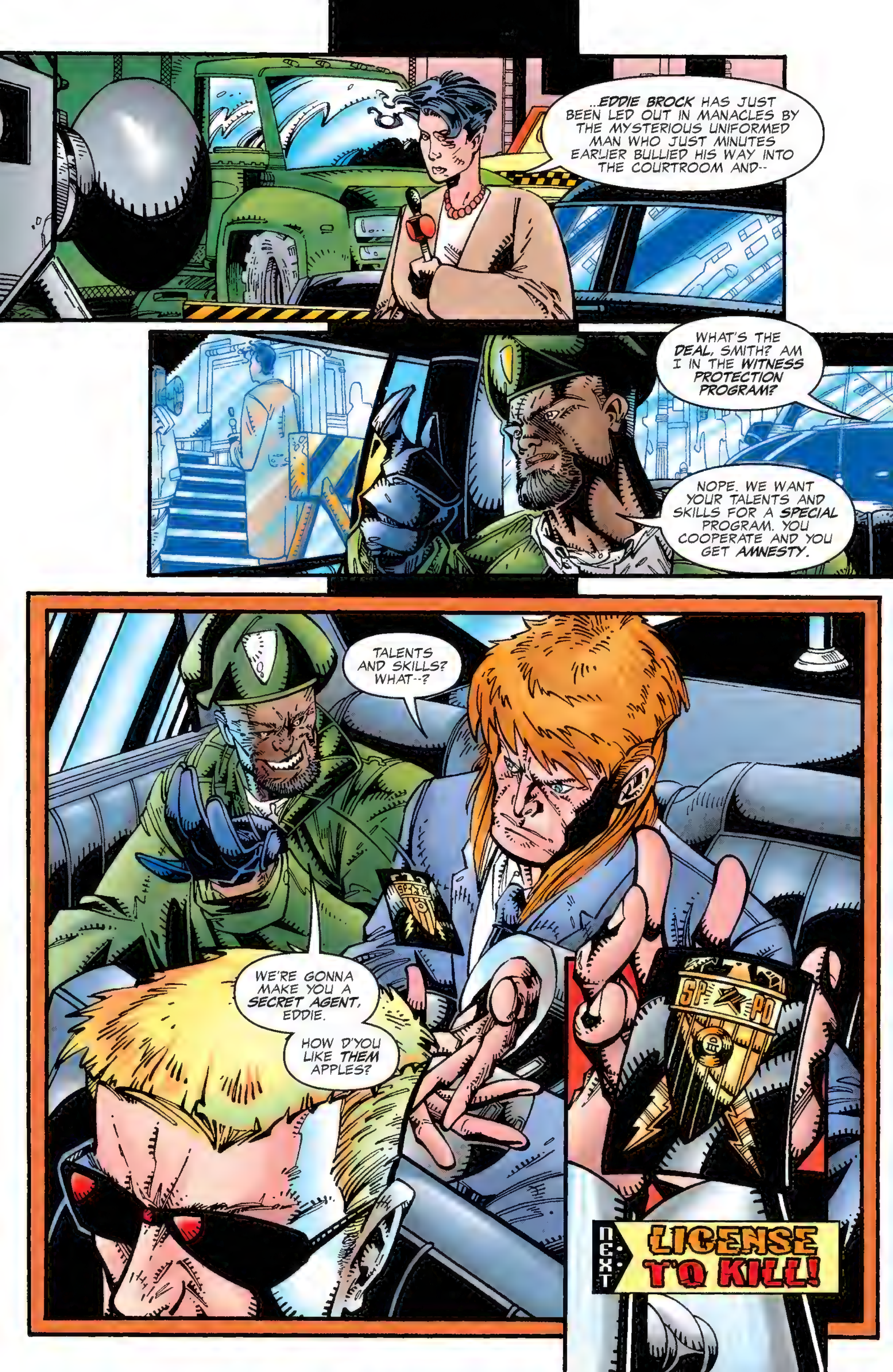

OKAY, WE'LL TAKE THIS SICK PUPPY BACK TO THE *POUND* WHERE HE BELONGS.
I'LL *GET* YOU FOR THIS, *VENOM!!*
YOU JUST *WAIT!*
IT'S SETTLING UP TIME, VENOM.
WHY DON'T YOU LET *EDDIE BROCK* TAKE OVER AND COME ALONG NICE AND QUIET...
I THINK IT WOULD BE IN YOUR OWN BEST INTERESTS, VENOM, IF YOU'D ALLOW DR. YAO TO INJECT YOU WITH THE DOPAMINE BLOCKER AND SURRENDER TO THE CUSTODY OF THE COURT.
I AM SURE THAT *JUDGE BECKWORTH* WOULD TAKE THAT ACTION INTO CONSIDERATION ALONG WITH YOUR EFFORTS IN SUBDUING CARNAGE!
I WILL CERTAINLY TAKE IT ALL INTO CONSIDERATION--
--BUT ONLY IF THE DEFENDANT SURRENDERS!

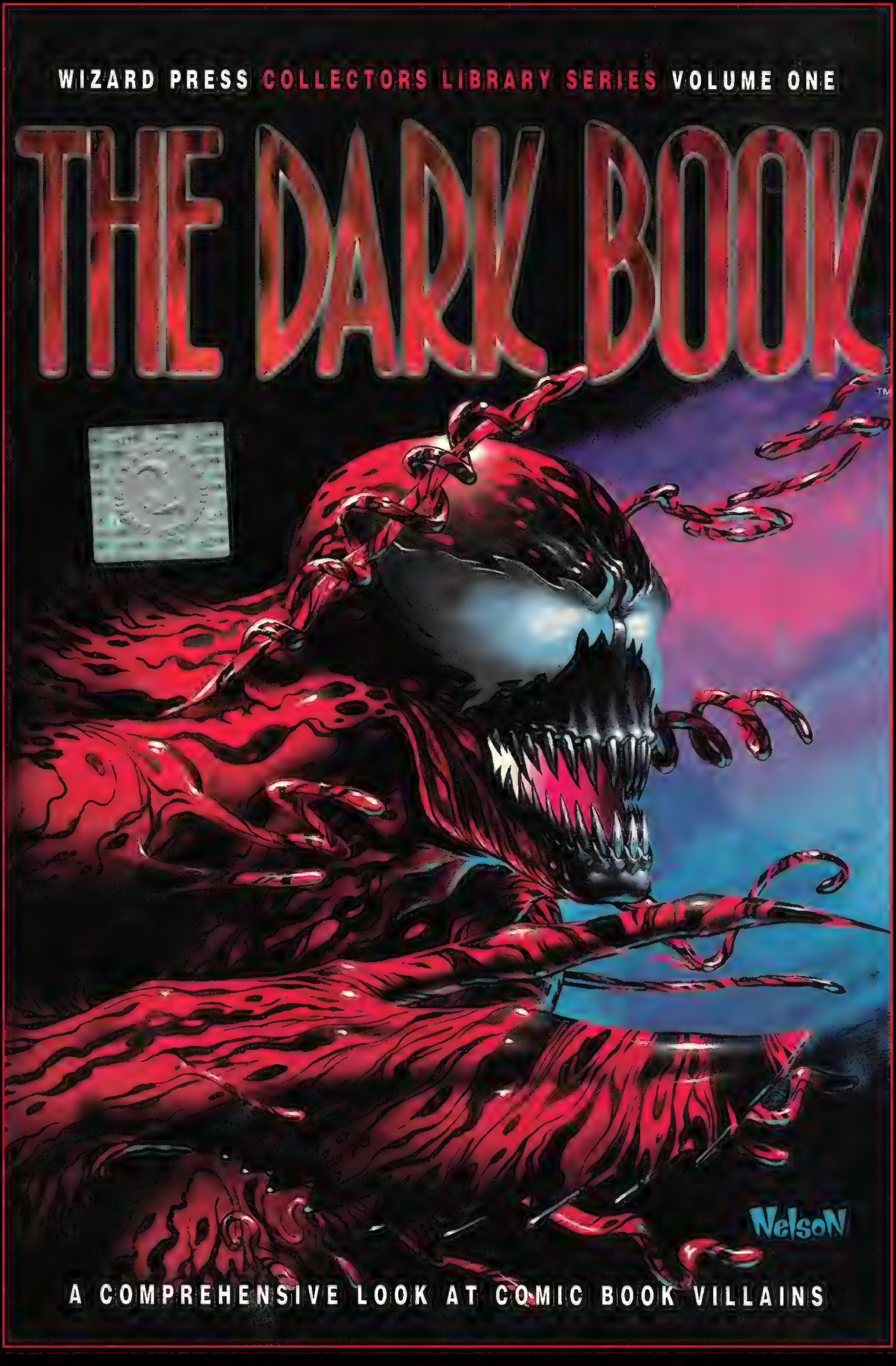

SO WHAT'S IT GONNA BE, VENOM?
THIS IS TRISH TILBY REPORTING LIVE FROM THE COURT HOUSE WHERE A FURIOUS BATTLE HAS BEEN IN PROGRESS BETWEEN SPIDER-MAN, DAREDEVIL, VENOM AND CARNAGE.
WE HAVE JUST SEEN CLETUS KASADY, AKA CARNAGE BEING BUNDLED OUT IN RESTRAINTS AND APPARENTLY MEDICATED WITH MASSIVE AMOUNTS OF DOPAMINE BLOCKER.
AS FAR AS WE KNOW, VENOM HAS NOT BEEN RECAPTURED OR SUBDUED, BUT THERE IS AN OMINOUS SILENCE WITHIN THE COURTROOM!
JUDGE MURIEL BECKWORTH IS STILL INSIDE, AS ARE DETECTIVES CLARK AND STEEN. IS THERE A HOSTAGE DRAMA BEING PLAYED OUT THAT WE ARE NOT PRIVY TO--?
WAIT!
A LARGE MAN IN SOME SORT OF PARA-MILITARY UNIFORM IS INTERFERING WITH MY CAMERA CREW!
SIR! WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE HERE? CAN YOU ENLIGHTEN US AS TO WHAT--
SIR? SIR?
HE'S ENTERING THE COURTROOM AND HE'S CLOSING THE DO--
CLICK!
WHAT I HAVE TO SAY CAN'T BE SAID ON LIVE TELEVISION.


JUST **WHO** DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, AND WHAT AUTHORIZATION DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE IN **MY** COURTROOM?
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, YOUR HONOR, I AM SPECIAL AGENT DARYLL SMITH...
...FROM A RATHER **CLASSIFIED** AGENCY THAT YOU WILL **NOT** EASILY FIND A LISTING FOR IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DIRECTORY.
MY IDENTIFICATION IS THEREBY **MOOT**, TO SAY THE LEAST.
I **DO** HAVE LETTERS OF AUTHORIZATION FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES...
...THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.
WHAT KIND OF HIGH-LEVEL VOODOO ARE YOU PULLING, SMITH?
ASK THE **JUDGE**, MISS.
THE **UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT** IS ASSUMING ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MR. BROCK FOR REASONS OF **NATIONAL SECURITY**.
HE IS NOW IN **FEDERAL PROTECTIVE CUSTODY** AND ALL CHARGES ARE SUSPENDED INDEFINITELY.


WHAT??
UNCLE SAM CAME THROUGH!
HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT?
THE **FEDS** KNOW WHO IS REALLY ON THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS!
THERE **IS** FAIRNESS IN LIFE, AFTER ALL!!
THERE **IS** ONE **TEENSY** CONDITION.
VENOM WILL HAVE TO MORPH BACK INTO HIS **EDDIE BROCK** PERSONA FOR HIS TRIP TO HIS NEW TOP SECRET ABODE...
..AND HE **WILL** BE MAKING THE JOURNEY IN **HANDCUFFS.**
NO WAY!!
WE'D RATHER--
SO WHO'S ON THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS **NOW,** HUH?
PUT UP OR SHUT UP, VENOM.


HRMPH!
I'M READY TO GO, AGENT SMITH.
SHUKK!
SMART MOVE, EDDIE.
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.
WHAT ON EARTH COULD THE *FEDS* WANT WITH *HIM?*
NATIONAL SECURITY, IN A PIG'S EYE!
AT LEAST THE STATE IS SAVED THE COST OF THE TRIAL!
UNTIL THE *NEXT* TIME!


...EDDIE BROCK HAS JUST BEEN LED OUT IN MANACLES BY THE MYSTERIOUS UNIFORMED MAN WHO JUST MINUTES EARLIER BULLIED HIS WAY INTO THE COURTROOM AND--
WHAT'S THE DEAL, SMITH? AM I IN THE WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAM?
NOPE. WE WANT YOUR TALENTS AND SKILLS FOR A SPECIAL PROGRAM. YOU COOPERATE AND YOU GET AMNESTY.
TALENTS AND SKILLS? WHAT--?
WE'RE GONNA MAKE YOU A SECRET AGENT, EDDIE.
HOW D'YOU LIKE THEM APPLES?
SP PD
NEXT: LICENSE TO KILL!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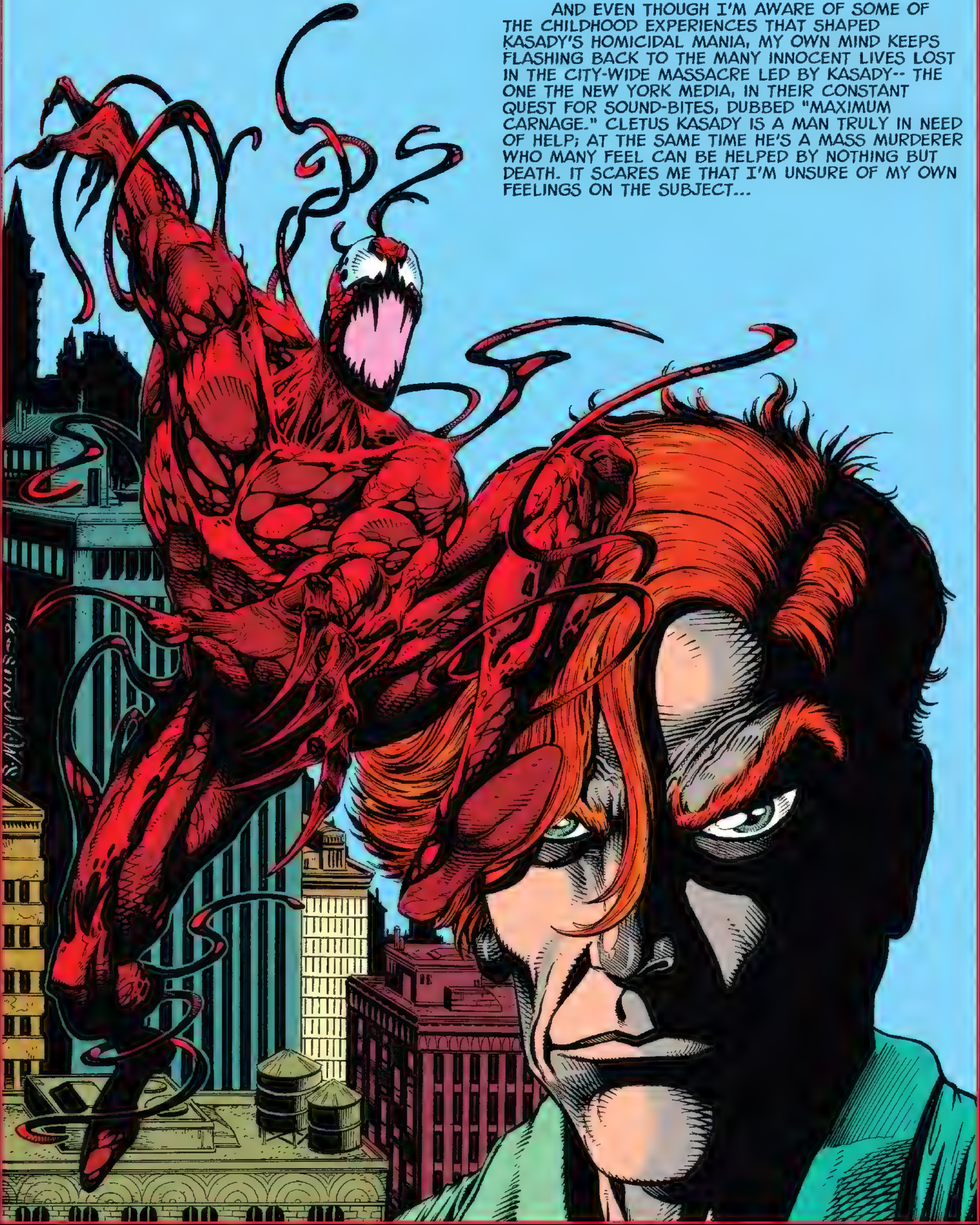
WIZARD: THE DARK BOOK '94 COVER BY NELSON DeCASTRO

FROM THE FILES OF DR. ASHLEY KAFKA:

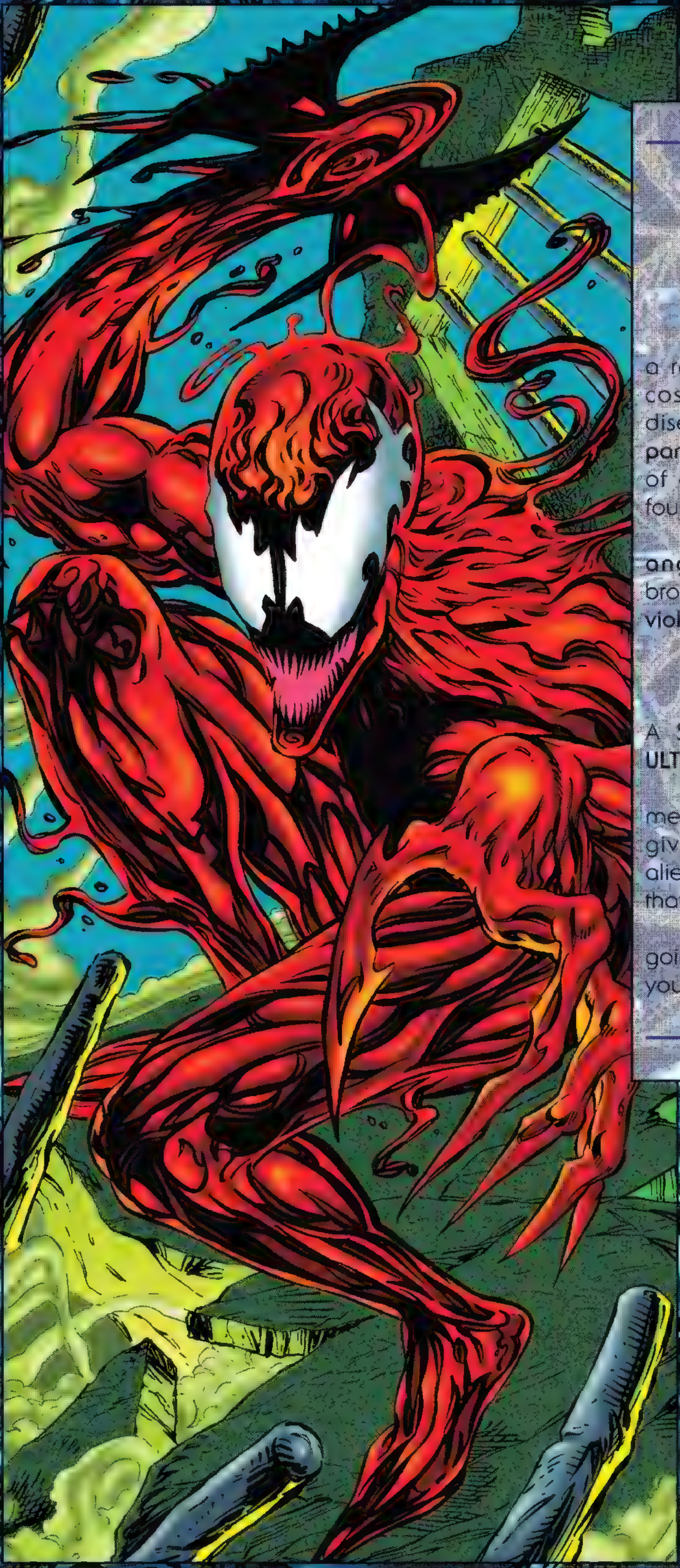
CARNAGE

IS IT WRONG FOR SOMEONE IN MY PROFESSION TO JUDGE A MAN LIKE CLETUS KASADY AS VERY LIKELY INCURABLE AND IRREDEEMABLE? HIS PSYCHOSIS SEEMS SO STRONG AS TO BE NEARLY IMPENETRABLE THROUGH ANY CONVENTIONAL PSYCHIATRIC MEANS. HIS STRANGE BOND WITH THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE CREATURE WHICH SUPPLIES HIM WITH THE POWERS TO COMMIT HIS ATROCITIES DOESN'T HELP THE MATTER, EITHER. THE SCIENTISTS HERE HAVE TRIED VARIOUS METHODS OF SEPARATING KASADY FROM THE SYMBIOTE WITH NO SUCCESS.THE DEAD PERSONNEL LEFT IN THE WAKE OF HIS LAST ESCAPE ARE A SICKENING TESTAMENT TO THAT. IS THE ALIEN FEEDING KASADY'S PSYCHOSIS? DOES IT HAVE A MIND THAT CAN BE REASONED WITH? I DON'T KNOW. I MAY NEVER KNOW.

AND EVEN THOUGH I'M AWARE OF SOME OF THE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES THAT SHAPED KASADY'S HOMICIDAL MANIA, MY OWN MIND KEEPS FLASHING BACK TO THE MANY INNOCENT LIVES LOST IN THE CITY-WIDE MASSACRE LED BY KASADY-- THE ONE THE NEW YORK MEDIA, IN THEIR CONSTANT QUEST FOR SOUND-BITES, DUBBED "MAXIMUM CARNAGE." CLETUS KASADY IS A MAN TRULY IN NEED OF HELP; AT THE SAME TIME HE'S A MASS MURDERER WHO MANY FEEL CAN BE HELPED BY NOTHING BUT DEATH. IT SCARES ME THAT I'M UNSURE OF MY OWN FEELINGS ON THE SUBJECT...



***AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #394 DELUXE EDITION* CARNAGE PROFILE BY SHAWN McMANUS**



CARNAGE

Try to follow me on this:

As near as I can determine, a renegade scrap of Venom's costume—possibly a disenchanted **elbow patch** or **pant-leg**—went AWOL in search of a new **symbiotic host**—and found **Cletus Kassady**!!!

Eddie Brock had been an **angry**, **moralless** wacko who brought to Venom an unfettered **violent rage**—!

But **Cletus Kassady**—

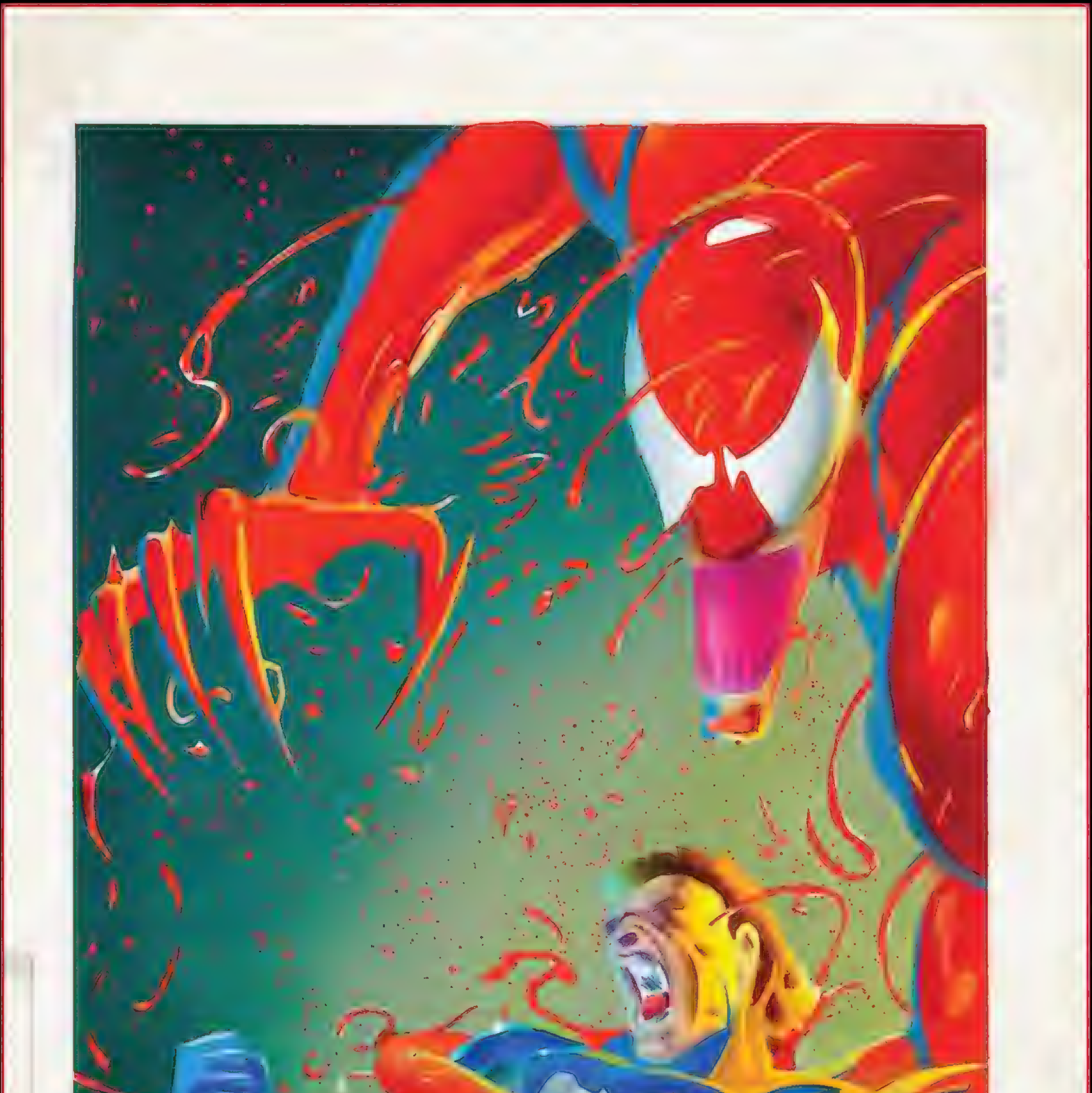
—was a total **NUTJOB**!!!

He's **WACKY CRAZY INSANE**!!! A **SERIAL KILLER** WITH THE **ULTIMATE WEAPON**!

Now, I'm no expert—correct me if I'm wrong—but you don't give a slimy, oozy, symbiotic alien life-form costume to a guy that's **certifiably psychotic**...!!!

You watch—**somebody**'s going to get **hurt**!!! Avoid him if you can!

SPIDER-MAN: THE JACKAL FILES CARNAGE PROFILE BY TODD DEZAGO, JOE ST. PIERRE, SCOTT KOBLISH & GREGORY WRIGHT



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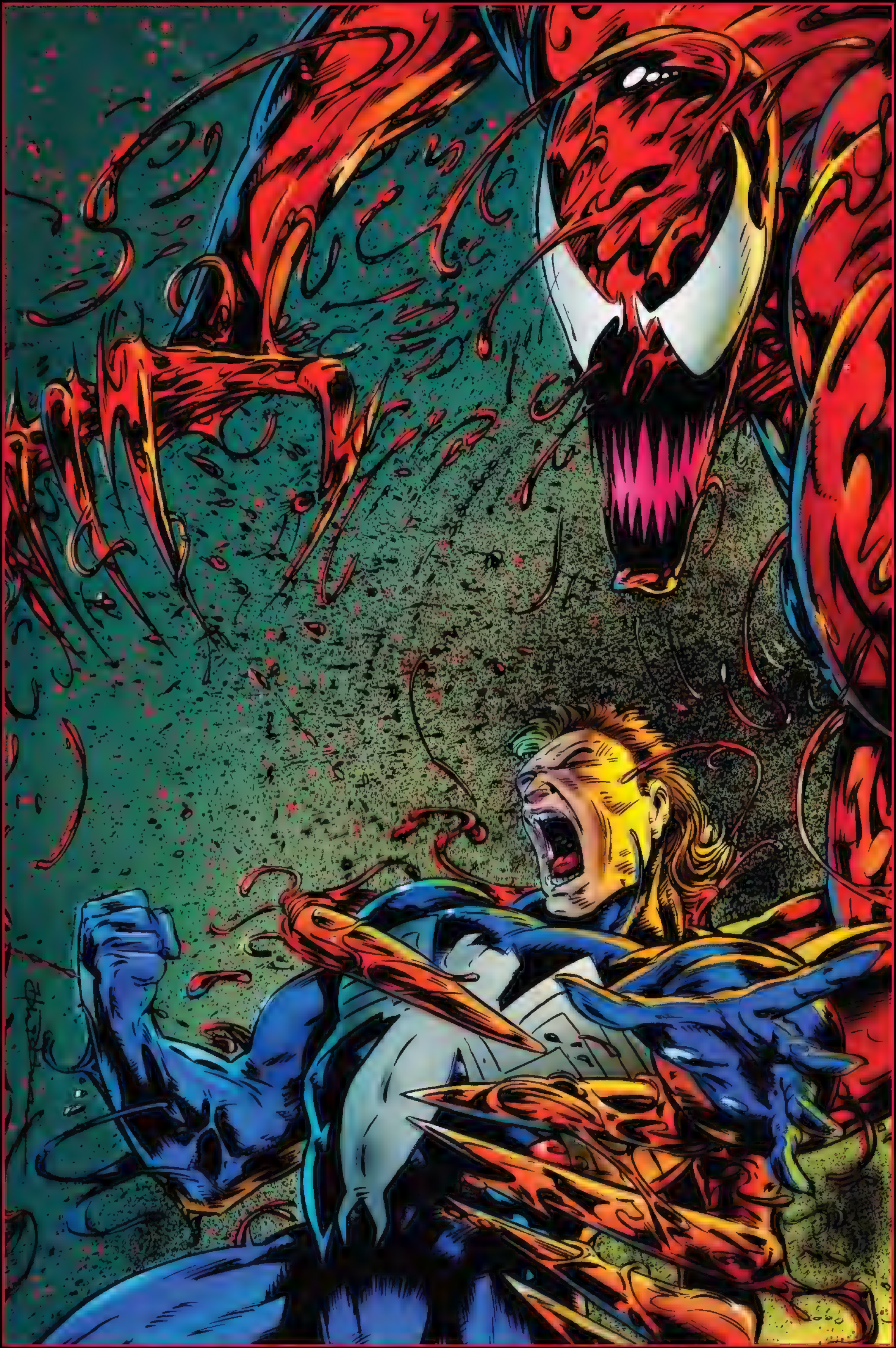

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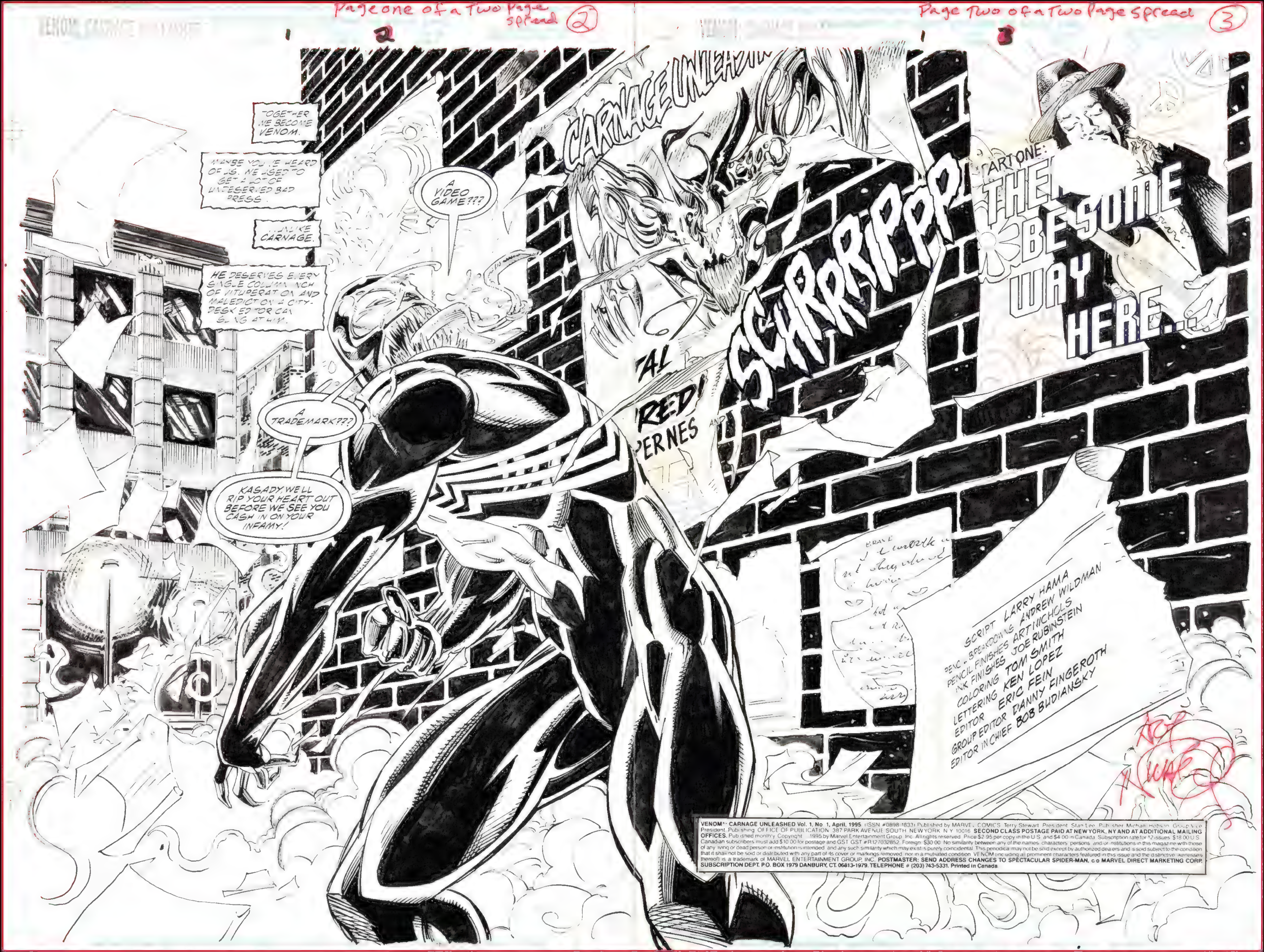
Page one of a Two Page spread ②
2
Page Two of a Two Page spread ③
3
VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED
TOGETHER WE BECOME VENOM.
MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF US. WE USED TO GET A LOT OF UNDESERVED BAD PRESS.
...UNLIKE CARNAGE.
HE DESERVES EVERY SINGLE COLUMN INCH OF VITUPERATION AND MALEDICTION A CITY-DESK EDITOR CAN SLING AT HIM.
A VIDEO GAME???
A TRADEMARK???
KASADY, WE'LL RIP YOUR HEART OUT BEFORE WE SEE YOU CASH IN ON YOUR INFAMY!
CARNAGE UNLEASHED
SCHRRIPPP!
PART ONE: THERE'LL BE SOME WAY HERE...
SCRIPT LARRY HAMA
PENCIL BREAKDOWNS ANDREW WILDMAN
PENCIL FINISHES ART NICHOLS
INK FINISHES JOE RUBINSTEIN
COLORING TOM SMITH
LETTERING KEN LOPEZ
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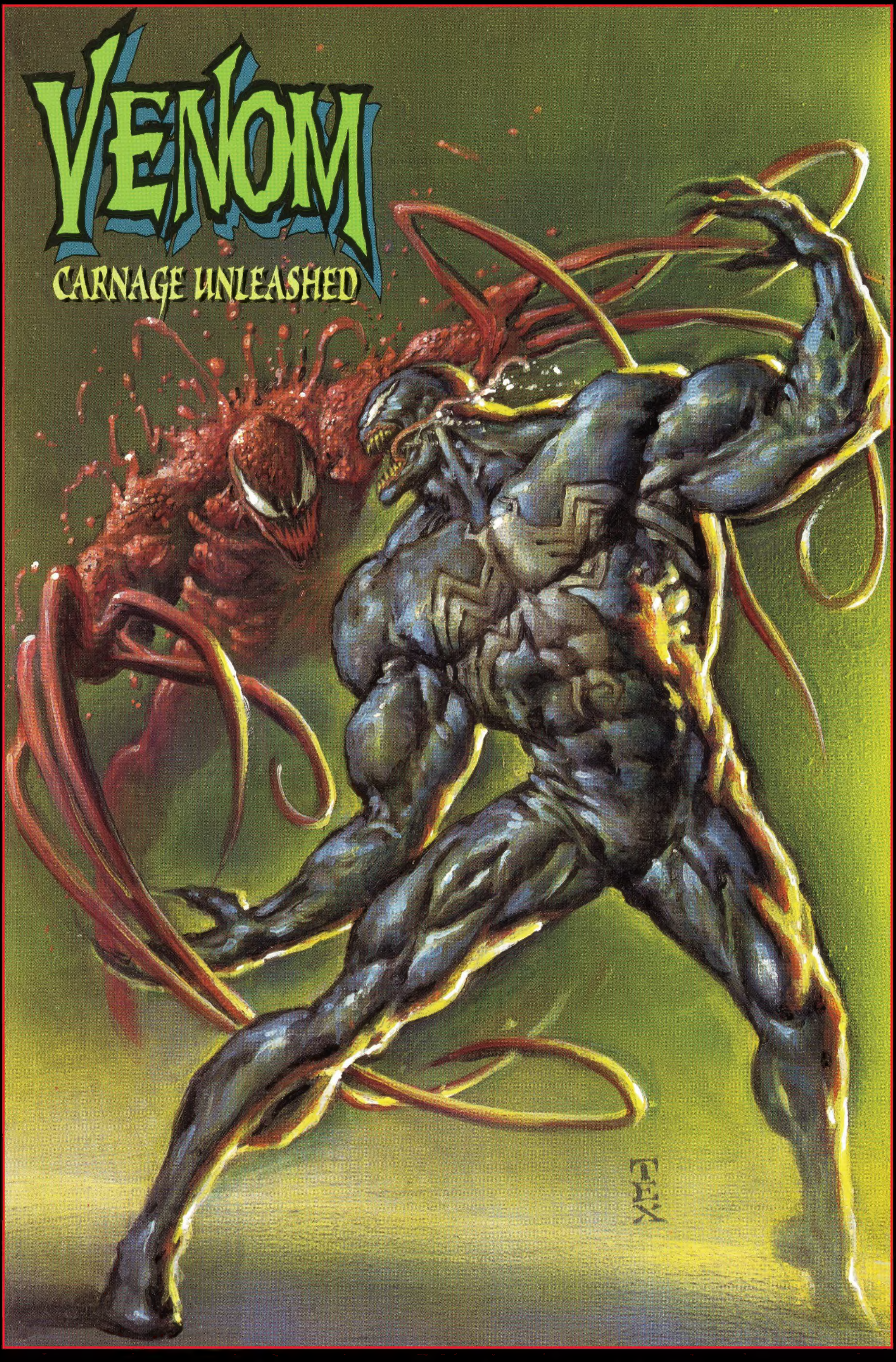
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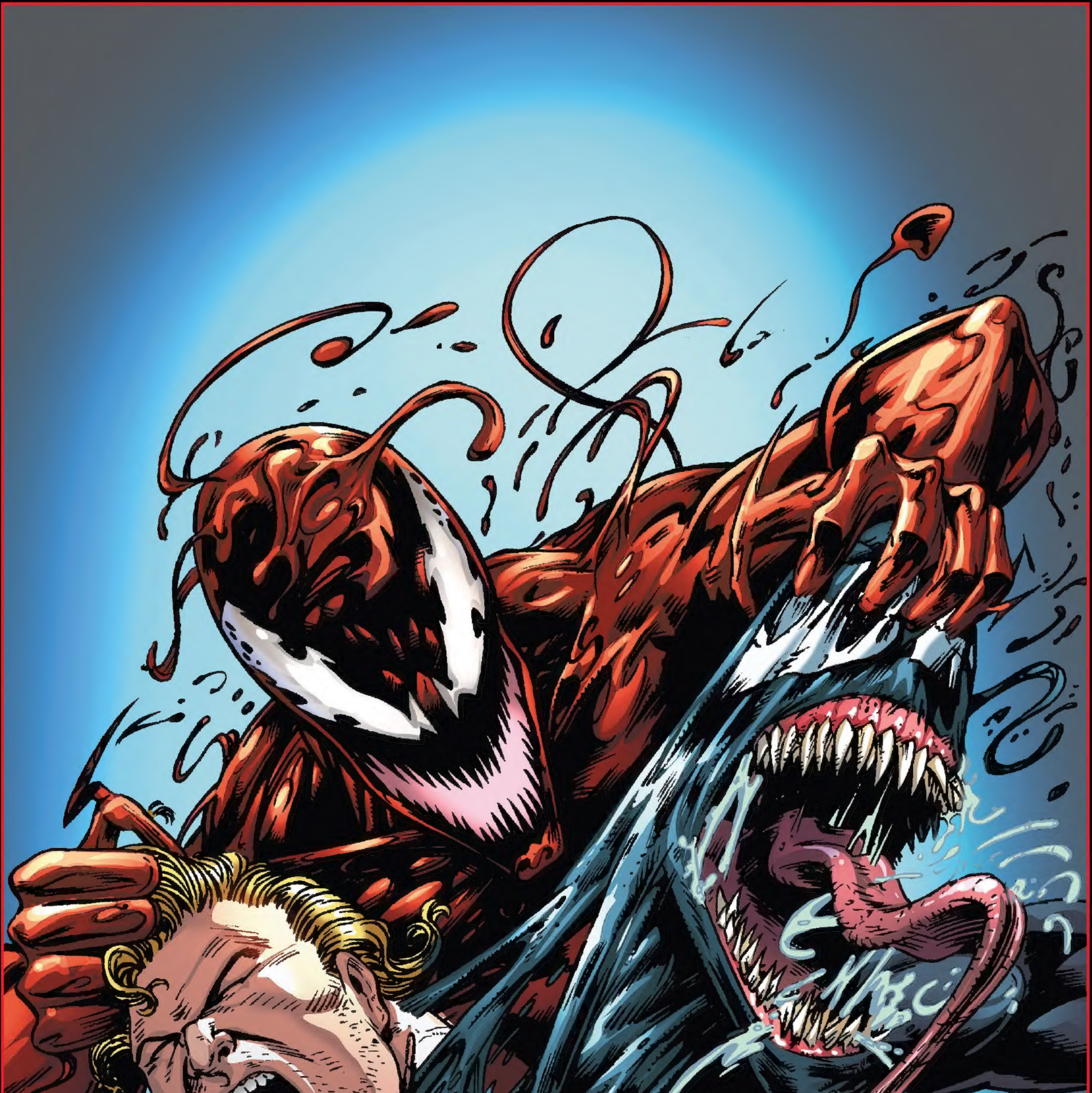

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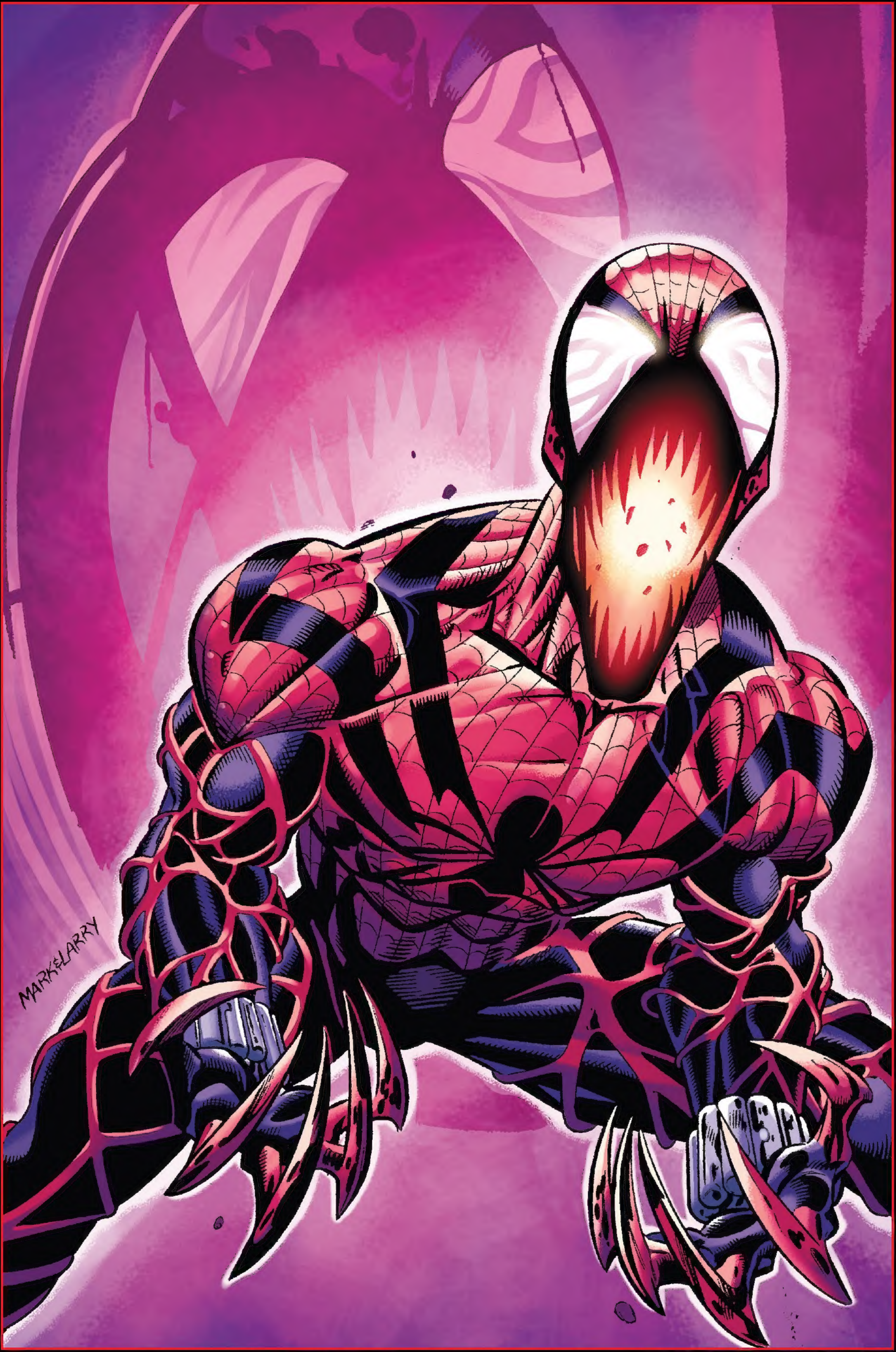

SPIDER-MAN: THE COMPLETE BEN REILLY EPIC VOL. 3 TPB COVER BY MARK BAGLEY, LARRY MAHLSTEDT & MATT MILLA

CARNAGE'S REIGN OF TERROR CONTINUES!

When the hit video game *Carnage Unleashed* provides the psychopathic symbiote the opportunity to gain his freedom, can Venom keep Cletus Kasady from filling the streets with blood? Then, when the planet of the symbiotes invades Earth, get ready for the attack of the fifty-foot Carnage! Plus: A psychiatrist tries to analyze Carnage, but who will get into whose head? How did Cletus' symbiote infect Ben Reilly? And when Venom goes on trial, can Spider-Man and Daredevil prevent Carnage from causing chaos in the courtroom?

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #403 & #410, VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED #1-4, CARNAGE: MIND BOMB, SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #3, SPIDER-MAN #67, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #233, CARNAGE: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE, VENOM: ON TRIAL #2-3 AND MATERIAL FROM AMAZING SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL, SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL, VENOM SUPER SPECIAL, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL AND WEB OF SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL

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